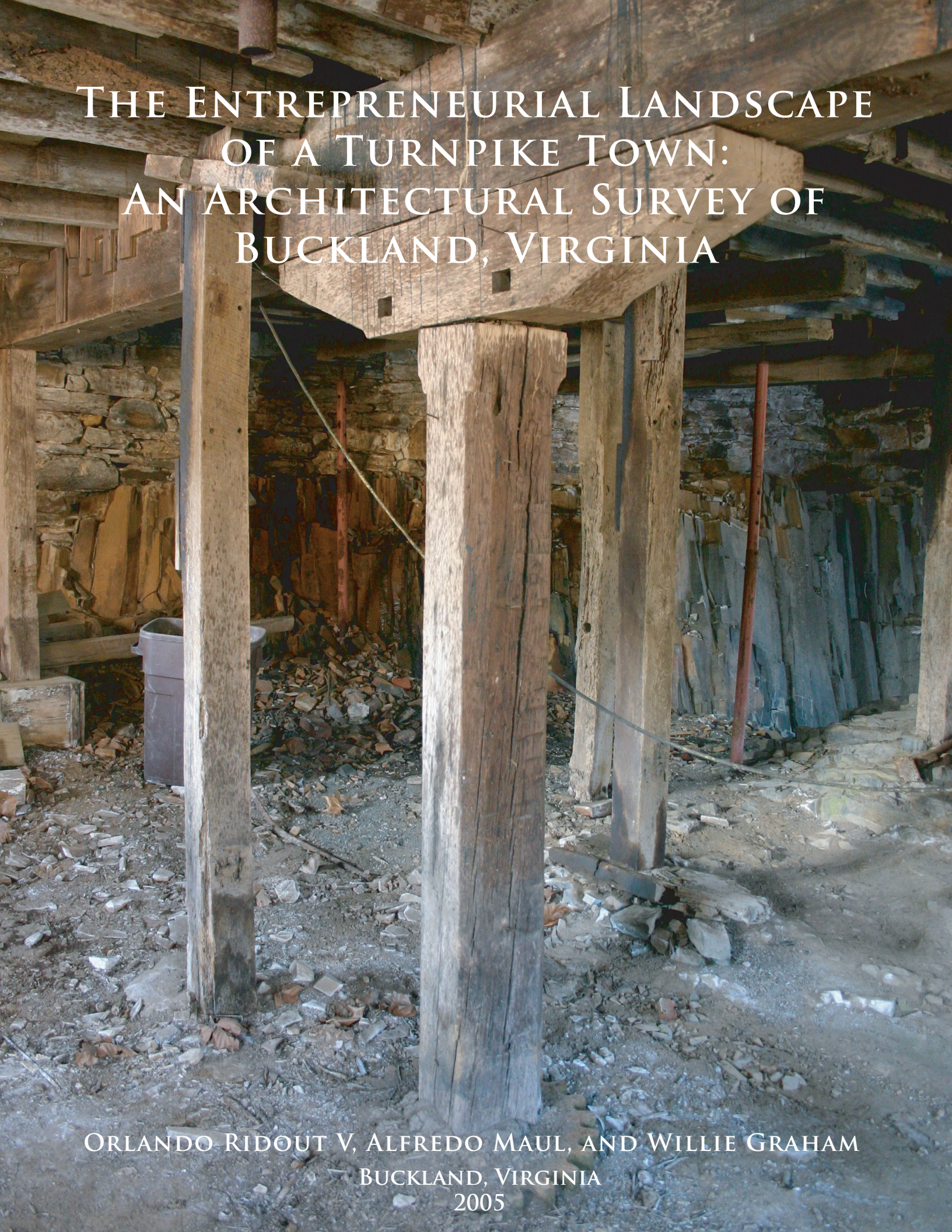

The Entrepreneurial Landscape of a Turnpike Town: An Architectural Survey of Buckland, Virginia

Orlando Ridout V, Alfredo Maul, and Willie Graham

Buckland, Virginia
2005

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With contributions by
David William Blake
Stephen Fonzo

A Project of the Buckland Preservation Society

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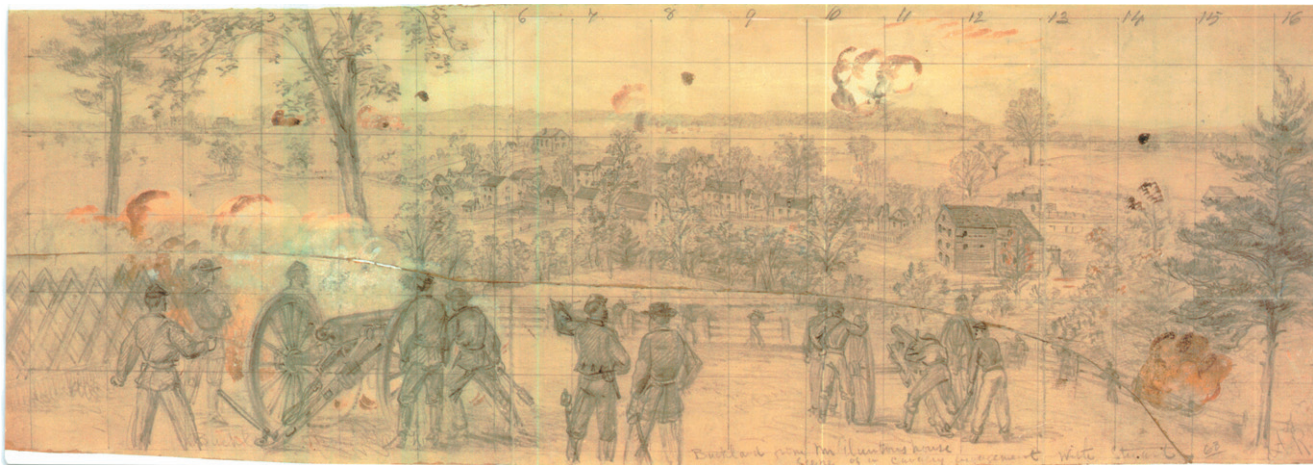

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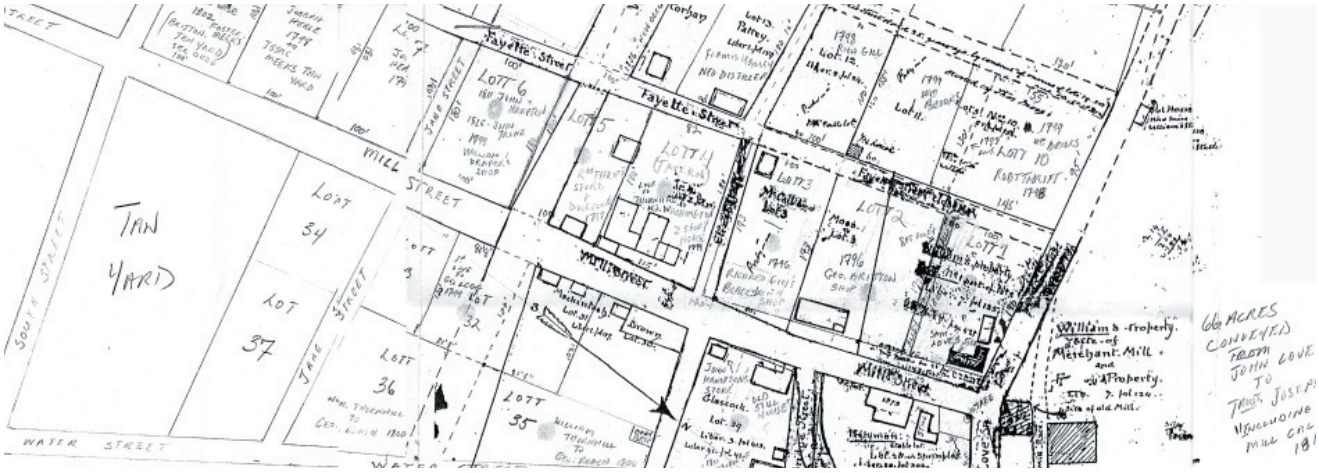

Acknowledgements

As with any survey project, many people contributed to the final product. The authors are indebted to the Buckland Preservation Society for providing a highly organized and effective support system for the project. First and foremost, we are indebted to David Blake of Buckland Hall, who served as project director, researcher, and contributing author. Brian Mannix provided fiscal management and oversight. Archeologist Stephen Fonzo served as principal researcher on behalf of the Buckland Preservation Society, and made significant contributions as a contributing author. Landscape historian C. Allan Brown of Charlottesville contributed analytical work on the early town plan and provided a handsomely detailed reconstruction drawing of the historical landscape of Buckland. Buckland property owners Thomas J. Ashe, Jr., Susan Dudley and Brian Mannix, Rose and Bill Hazel, Terry and Charles Nadeau, Leslie and Edward J. Nittiskie, and Linda and Barry Wright welcomed us into their homes, plied us with food, and shared boxes of documents, photographs, and memories that enriched our work and played an indispensable role in the development of this report.

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Orlando Ridout V
Alfredo Maul
Willie J. Graham

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Executive Summary

The town of Buckland, Virginia, traces its origins to the late eighteenth century, when the Virginia legislature formally recognized a community that had formed on the banks of Broad Run on the western edge of Prince William County. The fortuitous intersection of an important road to western Virginia with a year-round source of water power ensured a foundation for trade and grain processing, and Buckland prospered as a successful turnpike town for much of the nineteenth century. Changing patterns in the regional economy and the rise of nearby Warrenton gradually took a toll on the commercial underpinnings of Buckland, and by the latter half of the twentieth century, the village had been transformed into a residential community on the outer rim of the booming suburban development that encircles Washington, D. C.

Efforts to recognize and preserve Buckland as a significant element in the history of northern Virginia can be traced to the late 1940s, when Grace Bear purchased and restored the neglected Buckland Tavern, and then fought and eventually lost a battle with the Virginia highway department over the transformation of Route 29 from a two-lane to a four-lane highway. As a legacy of that effort, Grace Bear left a file of correspondence outlining her concerns, and a collection of photographs of Buckland. The photographs were taken by Grace Bear to demonstrate the architectural losses that the highway project would cause; today they serve as a valuable record both of the buildings that were demolished, and of the Buckland townscape at mid-century.

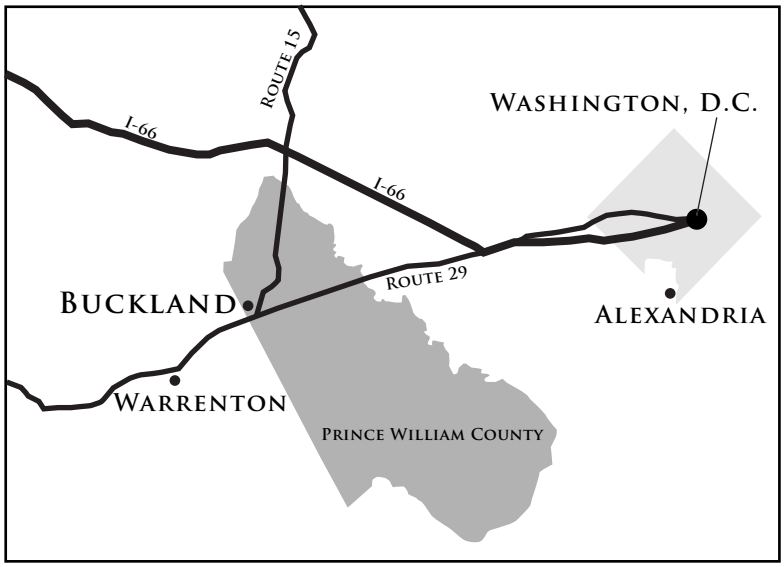
Grace Bear's efforts were unsuccessful, and the dual-lane highway was constructed in 1953, passing within a few yards of the Tavern and obliterating the ornamental pond that Grace maintained in her side yard. Her fierce defense of Buckland found sympathetic interest elsewhere, however, and in 1953, Martha and Vernon Leitch purchased a frame house in town that had served for much of the nineteenth century as a store, post office and residence. Martha Leitch became the unofficial historian of Buckland, a role she ably fulfilled for half a century. In 1975, Thomas J. Ashe, Jr. purchased the Buckland Tavern from the estate of Grace Bear and launched a careful restoration project that built on the work of his predecessor. Over the next quarter-century, Tom Ashe became the guardian of Buckland, purchasing one neglected historic building after another, and carefully stabilizing and restoring each to useful purposes. In 1987, a comprehensive evaluation of the village was conducted and Buckland was listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

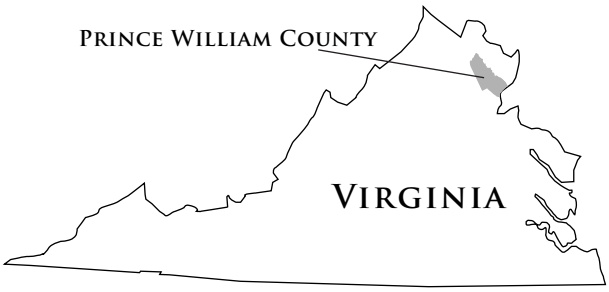
By the opening years of the twenty-first century, Buckland was threatened once again by pressure to upgrade Route 29, and the Buckland Preservation Society was formed. Concerned that the 1987 National Register documentation was out-of-date, the Society launched a largely volunteer effort to explore the documentary record for Buckland and reassess the age, historical uses, and significance of the extant buildings. This effort yielded a remarkable wealth of new data, and served as the catalyst for a matching grant from the National Park Service through the "Save America's Treasures" program.

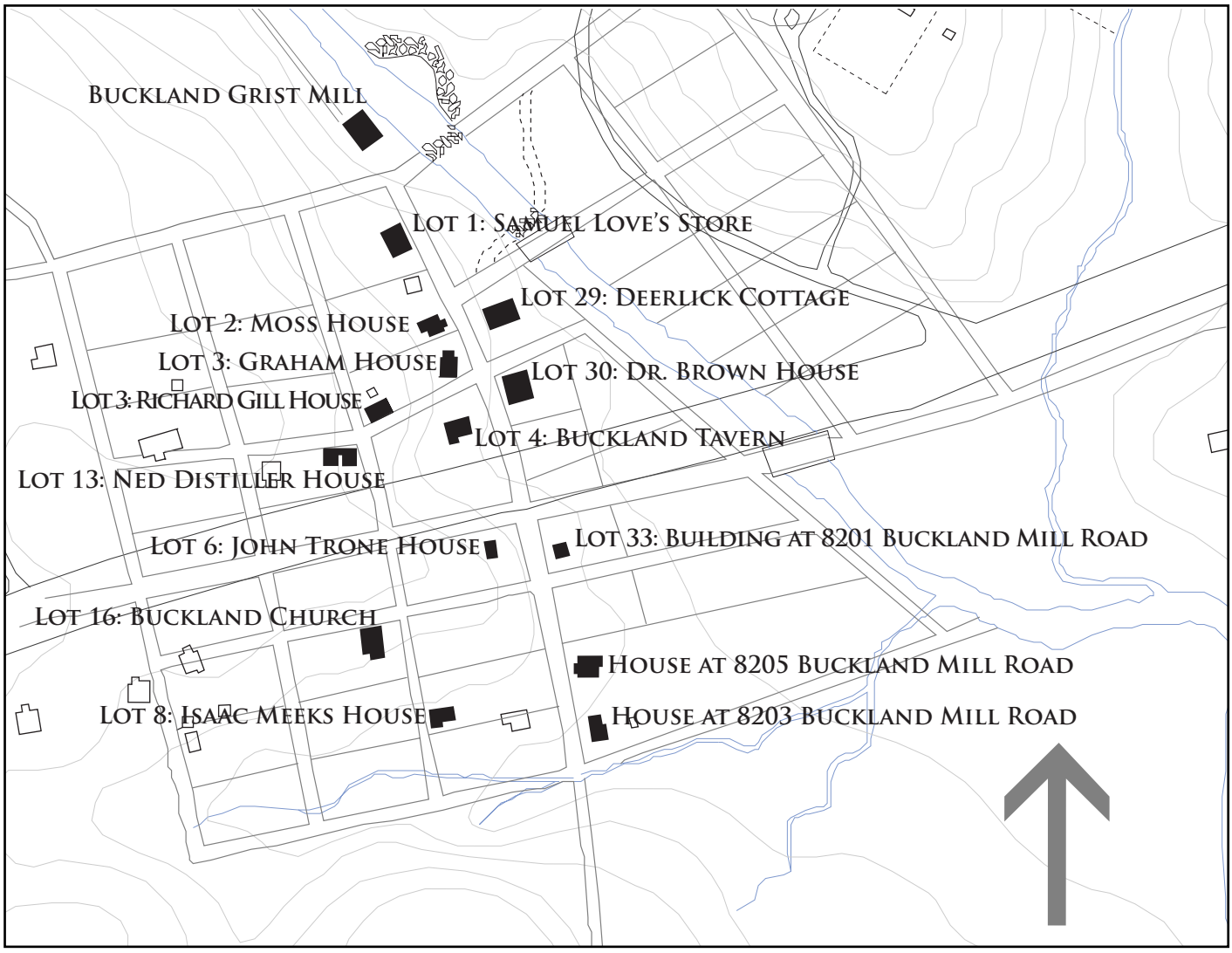
The principal goal of the current architectural survey project has been to conduct rigorous investigation of each building within the existing historic district and link the architectural evidence to the greatly expanded documentary evidence. Fifteen buildings were examined in detail, and most can now be dated within a tight range of from one to ten years. The tightly defined building dates have made it possible to make construction attributions to specific owners and sometimes to specific builders, and to draw conclusions regarding the principal uses of the buildings over the course of time. Thirteen of the fifteen buildings studied may be considered highly significant to the early history of Buckland; two more date to the 1950s, built in response to the expansion of Route 29. While modest in number, these thirteen buildings form a remarkable record of the diverse nature of an industrial and commercial turnpike town. Here are found the last extant grist mill in Prince William County, one of just three antebellum churches in the county, two taverns, two commercial stores (one an early post office), the homes a succession of millers, two blacksmiths, two doctors, a tanner, and perhaps rarest of all, the ca. 1820 home of free African American Ned Distiller.

A further goal of this project was to identify potential archeological sites within the existing historic district boundaries. More than two dozens sites have been identified, including the sites of two blacksmith's shops, a distillery, a tanyard, a woolen mill, dam and mill race, and the house site of free African Americans Samuel and Celia King. Also extant are the stone abutments for the timber bridge built across Broad Run ca. 1805-1808 and a section of road bed that served the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike, the first road in Virginia to be built with McAdam's revolutionary paving system.

Completion of the architectural evaluation has not slowed the documentary research on Buckland, and the most difficult aspect of this project was having to set a deadline for what could be included in the present report. Even as we put the finishing touches on this report, new material is steadily accumulating, offering exciting prospects for future discoveries and an ever expanding understanding of Buckland's rich history.







GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Buckland, Virginia: An Introductory History

by David Blake and Stephen Fonzo

Figure 1. *C. Allan Brown, "Cultural Landscape Map of Buckland." In this reconstruction of Buckland and its environs, the axial relationship between John Love's house, Buckland Hall, and the town of Buckland is clearly illustrated. Extant antebellum buildings are shaded black, and include Buckland Hall and thirteen buildings in the town.*

Buckland is a rare American example of the familiar axial English village pattern. The main house at Buckland farm and the town below, extending at its gate, stand on the Broad Run Tract, originally part of the sixth Lord Fairfax's Northern Neck Proprietorship Grant. Fairfax conveyed the land to his agent Robert (King) Carter in 1724, and Carter's sons and son-in-law sold the land to Samuel Love in 1774. The 1774 conveyance included "the mill built and erected thereon and the land, mill dam, and other appurtenances used with the said mill…together with Dickerson's Pretentions," located in Fauquier County at that time.[1] The early business activity at Buckland was the reason Samuel Love, a few months after purchasing this property, petitioned Fauquier County for a private road "to be opened and made public – and sufficiently cleared for wagons to pass to the said mill…on publick and private occasions."[2] Surely this improved his business and the business of others, because in 1779 Fauquier County ordered surveyors to determine the advantages of opening the old private road, whose subsequent report describes the road as having "been much used by the inhabitants of the neighborhood on their public and private business ever since our first knowledge of the place, which for some of us is upwards of thirty years."[3] Around the same time, Love began construction of the main house, a single-pile stone residence commonly attributed to architect William Buckland, but not documented as such.[4]

Figure 2. *Buckland Hall. John Love's house is positioned on a commanding site to the west of Broad Run, facing north along the entrance allee to the turnpike and the town of Buckland. Alfredo Maul for Buckland Preservation Society, 2004.*

Samuel Love's sons, Samuel, John, Charles, and Augustine, served as officers in the Virginia Regiment during the Revolutionary War and returned to transform Buckland into a vibrant mercantile center. Near the existing mill, known simply as Love's Mill, they built an assortment of secondary structures for production of farm goods at the base of the lane leading to the main house. The proximity of all these buildings to the Broad Run watershed was instrumental in their success.

Figure 3. *Kinsley Mill. Constructed ca. 1794 by John and Charles Love on Broad Run to the south of the turnpike and Buckland. This late twentieth-century photograph was taken shortly before the building was demolished. Photograph courtesy of Dan DeButts, resident of Kinsley.*

Soon the distillery, stone quarry, smithy, tannery, and several stores were being frequented by travelers. A

second mill called "Kinsley Mill" was built by John and Charles Love in 1794, and by 1796 John Love had built and begun operating a manufacturing mill, for the production of wool.[5] Outside merchants arrived, leased adjoining parcels and built stores of their own. When Samuel Love died in 1787, John Love inherited the main house. By the end of the eighteenth century there were additional shopkeepers, a wheelwright, a cooper, two taverns, an apothecary, a boot/shoe manufacturer, a saddle maker, a church, and a woolen factory – the essentials of a small town.

In 1797, by petition to the Virginia General Assembly, John Love laid out a grid of lots around the irregular cluster of earlier shops and outbuildings described in this document as "already built upwards of twenty good houses occupied by tradesmen and merchants."[6] These existing buildings included "considerable manufactorys of grain" and a stone distillery on lot 29. The petition further recommended "Buckland as a proper place for establishing a town and possessing singular advantages over any other situation within a considerable distance." The petition also carefully described all of the natural amenities afforded at this site. The General Assembly established the "forty-eight lott Plan of the Town" on January 15, 1798.[7] The first act of the Town Trustees described the sales of the various lots and documented which lots "were built on previous to the law which passed for establishing the town." During the earliest years of the town's existence, John Love and his brothers bred horses, operated the stone quarry, farmed on an extensive scale, and experimented with several varieties of wheat for grinding in their mills. John Love was growing a strand of wheat called "The Lawler" which had a natural resistance to the Hessian Fly, an insect that devastated the American wheat crop during the nineteenth century. In a letter from John Love to former President James Madison, Love stated that President Monroe had visited Buckland "and who being satisfied from the appearance of the Lawler wheat contrasted with the common kinds, that it was not injured by the Hessian Fly, engaged with me (John Love) for 200 bushels for himself and would also reserve the same quantity for" Presidents Jefferson and Madison.[8] John Love, who was instructed in law by George Wythe at The College of William and Mary, corresponded with Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe, Patrick Henry, Benjamin Latrobe, Andrew Jackson, James Cabell, and many other notables about political and agricultural issues of the day.

Figure 4. *Plan of Buckland. David Blake's reconstruction of the original 48-lot town plan, based on the metes and bounds descriptions in early lot transactions. Buckland Preservation Society, 2004.*

Buckland was also known for its horses. Beginning in the 1780s, John and Samuel Love Jr. (the latter having moved to "Salisbury" in Loudon County) began to import fine Arabian and European horses to breed. The blood lines of their stallions "Mahomet" and "Spread Eagle" are listed among the origins of the modern thoroughbred.[9] Love's operation became one of the first large-scale breeding farms in Virginia along with "Salisbury" and "Bowling Green." In 1789, George Washington bought one of the Love's horses "for his own use."[10] In 1799, Washington corresponded with Samuel Love and provided him with an introduction to James McHenry, Secretary of War under President John Adams. Samuel Love offered a "Number of Horses… for the use of the Army of the U. States."[11]

Buckland continued to prosper through the first part of the nineteenth century. In 1808, newly elected U.S. Congressman John Love formed the Fauquier-Alexandria Turnpike Company "for the purpose of making an artificial turnpike road first from Fauquier Court House to Buckland farm or Buckland Town, and thence to the Little River Turnpike Road, at the most suitable point for affording a convenient way from Fauquier Court House to Alexandria."[12] In 1813, John Love wrote to his friend, current President James

Madison, and described the progress of the turnpike road construction as "affording the most direct route from Washington to the Kanhawa Country" asking "for your aid and the patronage of your name as a stockholder," which was likely to encourage the work.[13] An 1820 survey map drawn by George Love, John Love's uncle, depicts the road and is of further significance as the first accurate map of Fauquier County.[14]

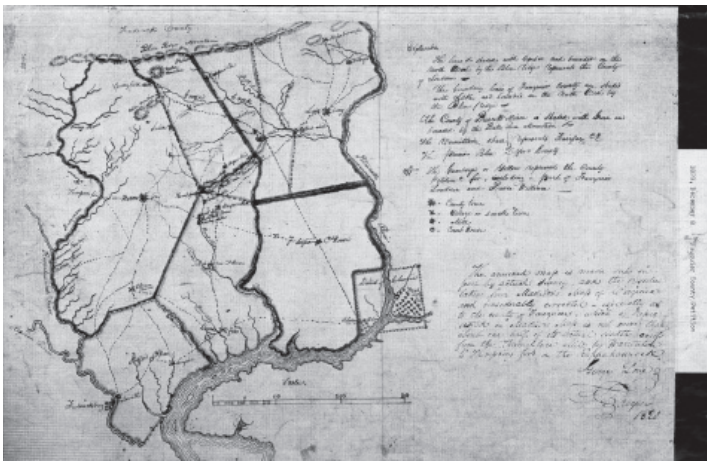


FIGURE 5. *Map of Northern Virginia by George Love, August 3, 1820. This map was annexed to petitions for the formation of a new county, and serves as an important cartographic record of Prince William and the adjoining counties at a time when Buckland was gaining benefit from increasing traffic to the west. Library of Virginia.*

Upon the formation of the turnpike company, French engineer Claudius Crozet, bridge builder for Napoleon, was thereafter engaged to inspect and redesign the thoroughfare between Buckland and Warrenton. In 1823, Crozet had been appointed Virginia state engineer, making the turnpike at Buckland one of his first American projects. It was also determined by Crozet and the Town Trustees that Buckland would be improved by building the turnpike through the center of town rather than at the north end, where the old wooden bridge at Bridge Street and the old ford at Love Street had conveyed travelers over Broad Run before 1775. The "new paved road" was constructed accordingly, requiring the condemnation in 1823 of land approximately equal to four lots from the original plan of the town. Crozet built the road using a revolutionary paving process invented by John Loudon McAdam.[15] The 1826 report of the Fauquier-Alexandria Turnpike Company observes that

> …of the new road now making upon McAdam's Plan, from Buckland to Warrenton…there have been completed during the last year, about four miles…the experiment of a road plan entirely new in the State; and now for the first time introduced has been fairly tested; and has been found fully to answer the expectations of the most sanguine and will justify the belief that its general adoption would produce immense advantages to the Fund for Internal Improvement, as well as the Country generally. It has become the admiration of the neighborhood, and is well worthy the attention of all friends to Internal Improvement.[16]

The 1827 report describes "the new road from Warrenton to Buckland, which is now entirely completed, and is acknowledged to be the best road in Virginia." This report also notes that "the bridge at Buckland has been carried away by a freshet: It will be shortly rebuilt."[17] The Buckland bridge was constructed sometime shortly after the Prince William County Court ordered it to be built in 1804, along with an identical bridge over Cedar Run in Brentsville.[18] Both bridges featured stone abutments and wooden frame superstructure, but whereas the Cedar Run Bridge was demolished in the mid-nineteenth century, the stone abutments of the Buckland Bridge still stand and are visible today from Route 29. Several new buildings were built beside the McAdamized road including the Stagecoach Inn, which is portrayed in a 1930 photograph, showing the building after it had been converted to a gasoline station.[19]

FIGURE 6. *Stagecoach Inn, ca. 1935. In this view from the southeast, the south gable and east wall are visible, and the gasoline pumps indicate the north gable, facing Lee Highway.*

Between the time it was founded and the Civil War, a number of famous figures visited Buckland on "the pike" as it was locally known. General Lafayette

traveled the road on the last leg of his triumphant tour and was met by little girls who scattered flowers in his path, and being invited to the tavern, was honored by several ladies who read poems they had written in his praise.[20] In 1830, Anne Royall, a notoriously critical travel writer, followed the road to Buckland. In her book, *Mrs. Royall's Southern Tour*, she described the town as

> …a romantic, lively, business doing village, situated on a rapid, rolling stream…several manufactories are propelled by this stream which adds much to the scenery. Buckland owns the largest distillery I have seen in my travels. The buildings, vats and vessels are quite a show. There is also flour manufactory here on a very extensive scale – the stream is a fund of wealth to the citizens… encompassed with rising grounds and rocks, the roaring of the water-falls, and the town stretching up to the tops of the hills, was truly picturesque.[21]

She further described Buckland as "a real Yankee town for business." Some years later it was hailed as "the Lowell of Prince William" in the Manassas *Journal*. Constant travel brought new enterprises, such as the Pony Express and William Smith's stagecoach line. By 1835, Buckland was a thriving stagecoach town complete with its own post office and stagecoach inn. Martin's *Gazetteer of Virginia* of 1835 lists the population as "130 whites; of whom 1 is a physician; and 50 blacks."[22] From the beginning years of the town, the African American citizens of Buckland included skilled laborers who owned land and slaves of their own. One former slave, who must have been proud of his work in the Buckland distillery and called himself "Ned Distiller," is listed on the 1810 census as freed. Samuel King of Buckland, a "freeman of colour," emancipated his wife Celia and others in 1811. Celia King operated the Turnpike tollgate at Buckland and sold horse-shaped molasses cookies there for many years.[23]

John Love left Virginia for Tennessee with Andrew Jackson in 1822. Together they had speculated on thousands of acres of land in Tennessee and John Love represented Jackson as an attorney. An advertisement offering Buckland Farm for sale that year noted the property as "being so well known that further description is deemed unnecessary."[24] Temple Mason Washington, who was second cousin to George Washington and first cousin to John Love (Samuel Love's sister had married John Augustine Washington) moved into Buckland Hall and later purchased the property in 1839. Eppa Hunton, of Balls Bluff fame, built a school in Buckland in 1841 and provided instruction in the law to the sons of Judge John Webb Tyler and others. In 1853, Temple Mason Washington conveyed Buckland Farm to Major Richard Bland Lee II, son of Congressman Richard Bland Lee of Sully, nephew of "Lighthorse Harry" Lee and first cousin of General Robert E. Lee. Richard Bland Lee, graduate of West Point, obtained the rank of Major in the U.S. Army and was appointed the same rank in the Confederate States Army.

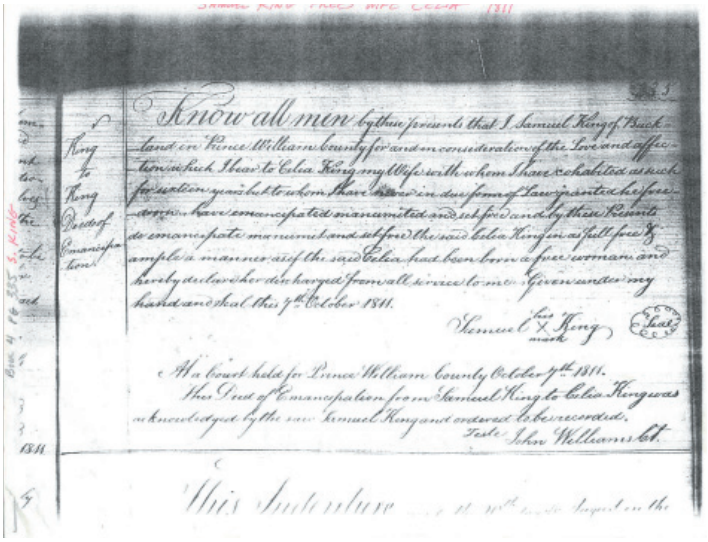


FIGURE 7. *Deed of Emancipation, Samuel King to Celia King, October 7, 1811. Samuel King, a free back land owner in Buckland executed this manumission document in 1811, noting that they had co-habited as husband and wife for sixteen years. Prince William County Deed Book 4, folio 335.*

During the Civil War, Buckland became a prime target due to its mills and proximity to the Warrenton Turnpike, which was the primary route of east-west travel in this part of Virginia. Buckland was occupied at different times throughout the war by both Union and Confederate troops, leading to several skirmishes. The first shots of the Battle of Second Manassas were fired on the bridge when Pope's troops engaged in August 1862, and the local skirmish following these shots was named after the Buckland Bridge in the Officers' Official Reports. Fourteen months later, on October 19, 1863, the Confederate cavalry enjoyed its final southern victory at Buckland when it defeated Generals Judson Kilpatrick and George Armstrong Custer. Sometimes referred to as "Custer's First Stand," it was Custer's

most serious defeat prior to the Battle at Little Bighorn. His wagons and personal belongings were captured that day. Letters to several of his female companions were published along with those to his fiancé in the Richmond *Times* to humiliate him. Custer wrote his fiancé Nettie Humphrey the following day "Yesterday, October 19 was the most disastrous this division ever passed through…I cannot but regret the loss of so many brave men." Confederate Generals J.E.B. Stuart, Fitzhugh Lee, and Wade Hampton all turned on Kilpatrick's men. Many men and horses were killed at the base of the cliff in the waters about the Buckland mill dam. Others met their death in the ford millrace, where Stuart's and Fitz-Lee's men overcame them. After the Confederates recaptured the bridge, they sent the Yankees scrambling for their lives on a five-mile steeplechase along the Warrenton Turnpike. General J.E.B. Stuart humorously called the victory "The Buckland Races" as if it had been a glorious foxhunt and later in his official record stated "I am justified in declaring the rout of the enemy at Buckland the most single and complete that any cavalry has suffered during the war."[25]

Figure 8. *Edwin Forbes, "The Army of the Potomac Crossing Broad Run." The mill complex at Buckland is illustrated in this view dated October 14, 1863. Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division.*

Alfred Waud, Edwin Forbes and other artists documented the events at Buckland by sketch and engraving. Recognized as the best of the Civil War sketch artists, Alfred Waud documented the battle at Buckland in two sketches, "Custer's Advance on Buckland" and "Buckland from Mr. Hunton's House, scene of cavalry engagement with Stuart." The latter drawing was engraved and published by *Harper's Magazine* on November 14, 1863. On October 21, 1863, Lieutenant Robert E. Lee, Jr. must have been pleased to write to his mother with news of victory so late in the war.

> We met separately and collectively the three Yankee Divisions of Cavalry, Bedford's Regulars, Gregg's and Kilpatrick's and whipt them every time!…Gen. Stuart retreated designedly before them toward Warrenton and Our Divisions, under Gen. Fitz Lee came up perpendicular to the Pike and cut their column in two. Captured half their ambulances, one loaded with ammunitions, one loaded with medical stores and 800 prisoners.[26]

General Robert E. Lee wrote to General Stuart on the day of the battle at Buckland, "I congratulate you and your officers and your men on this handsome success. The plan was well conceived and skillfully executed." There were at least 230 Union casualties (officers' reports vary in regard to number of casualties on both sides) and the Buckland Tavern and Church were used as hospitals.[27] The significance of this Confederate victory was overlooked or possibly suppressed in the northern press—newspapers such as *Harper's Weekly* referred to the engagement as a skirmish—perhaps fearing the impact of a Confederate victory after Gettysburg. [28]

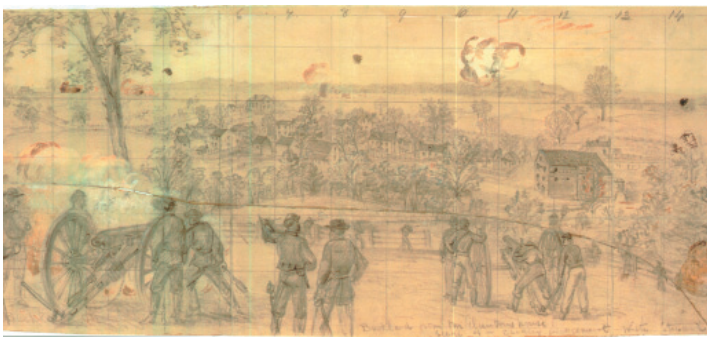


Figure 9. *Alfred R. Waud, "Buckland from Mr. Hunton's House, Scene of cavalry engagement with Stuart." This view from the heights of Cerro Gordo on the east bank of Broad Run provides a remarkably complete inventory of buildings in Buckland on the morning of October 19, 1863. Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division.*

Richard Bland Lee and his descendants lived at Buckland Farm until 1935. Mrs. Richard Bland Lee's first cousin, the painter John Singer Sargent, visited Buckland Hall on several occasions during the late nineteenth century and painted a rare watercolor of the house in 1887. He also painted a view of the icehouse and three large oil landscapes of various views of the farm. In 1935, the property was sold to Mitchell Harrison, who hired architect Irwin Fleming for the

restoration of the main house.

The property was later sold to Thomas Mellon Evans, a noted Wall Street financier, philanthropist and horse breeder. Mr. Evans spent the next four decades developing a state-of-the-art thoroughbred farm at Buckland Farm, the first in Virginia to be laid out in the Kentucky style. His championship horses included Pleasant Colony, winner of the 1981 Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes. Pleasant Colony died on New Year's Eve 2002 and was buried at Buckland Farm in the center of a modern point-to-point race track within sight of the barn where he was foaled.

The town of Buckland remains a rare example of a vernacular stagecoach town and represents the early industrialization of America with its mills, factories, merchants, and tradesmen. The stagecoach line and macadamized turnpike road converged at Buckland and made it the vibrant place of business described by all accounts. Much of the town that grew from the late eighteenth century through the post Civil War period survives remarkably undisturbed by the development and change experienced elsewhere in northern Virginia. The archaeological potential of Buckland is particularly compelling, as the equivalent area of just four of the original 48 lots has been compromised, all by the twentieth-century expansion of Route 29. This unusual circumstance has left the stratigraphy and archeology associated with the remaining 44 lots largely intact. Like a time capsule, many of the earliest buildings stand among the eighteenth-century stone foundations and artifacts associated with each parcel. In preserving this site we have perhaps the best chance at demonstrating everyday life in old Virginia, as modest places such as Buckland have disappeared long ago.

FIGURE 10. *Aerial photograph of the town of Buckland, facing west from above Cerro Gordo. The mill is at the lower right in this image, serving as the northern terminus of Buckland Mill Road. The church is at upper left, on the south side of Lee Highway. Buckland Preservation Society, 2004.*

NOTES

[1] Lord Fairfax to John Carter & Charles Carter, September 18, 1724, Northern Neck Land Grants Book A, folio 70.
[2] Samuel Love, Road & Bridges File No. 1775-003, Fauquier County Courthouse.
[3] Ibid: Report of Surveyors to Fauquier County Court, February 1779.
[4] R. Jackson Ratcliffe, *This Was Prince William*, (Potomac Press: Leesburg, VA, 1978, p. 69).
[5] Ibid, pp. 100-101.
[6] Petition to establish the town of Buckland, December 8, 1797. General Assembly Legislative Petitions, 1776-1865, Prince William County, Box 210, Folder 52, Library of Virginia.
[7] "An Act to Establish Several Towns," January 15, 1798. Virginia General Assembly Session Laws, 1794-1812, Chapter LXIX (1798), p. 33, Library of Virginia.
[8] John Love to James Madison, July 15, 1817. James Madison Papers, Library of Congress.
[9] Mahomet was advertised for stud at Buckland in the *Republican Journal & Dumphries Advertiser* on May 19, 1796, and Spread Eagle at Salisbury in Loudon County in the *Alexandria Gazette* on February 9, 1799.
[10] Charles Love, Jr. to George Washington, April 2, 1789. W. W. Abbot, ed. *The Papers of George Washington, Presidential Series*, vol. 2, April – June 1789, pp. 9-10.
[11] Samuel Love to George Washington, June 17, 1799; George Washington to James McHenry, June 22, 1799; George Washington to Samuel Love, June 22, 1799. Dorothy Twohig, ed. *The Papers of George Washington, Retirement Series*, vol. 4, April – December 1799, pp. 142-143.
[12] "An Act Incorporating a Company to Establish a Turnpike from the Little River Turnpike Road, to Fauquier Court House" (January 27, 1808). *Virginia General Assembly Session Laws, 1784-1812*, Chapter XXVII (1808), pp. 29-35.
[13] John Love to James Madison, February 6, 1813. James Madison Papers, Library of Congress.
[14] George Love's map, dated August 3, 1820, is appended to petitions for formation of a new county. General Assembly Legislative Petitions, 1776-1865, Box 73, Folder 8, Library of Virginia.
[15] Claudius Crozet, Principal Engineer's Examination, Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike, December 20, 1824. *Annual Reports of the Virginia Board of Public Works, 1816-1845.* "McAdam Roads: A Product of the Revolution," from Howard Newton, Jr., et al, *Backsights*, Richmond: Virginia Department of Highways, 1985, pp. 69-70.
[16] Jacob Morgan, Return of the state of the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike Company, from 1 November 1825 to 1 November 1826. *Annual Reports of the Virginia Board of Public Works, 1816-1845.*
[17] Eleventh Annual Report of the Board of Public Works, December 8, 1827, Library of Virginia.
[18] Prince William County Order Book 1, pp. 22-24 (Oct 1, 1804).
[19] Photograph courtesy of Mary Catherine Calvert, Buckland Preservation Society.
[20] *National Intelligencer*, September 14, 1825.
[21] Anne Newport Royall, *Mrs Royall's Southern Tour; or, Second Series of The Black Book. 3 vols.* Washington: Printed for the author, 1830-31.
[22] Joseph Martin, *A New and Comprehensive Gazetteer of Virginia and the District of Columbia*, Charlottesville, 1835.
[23] United States Census for 1810, Library of Virginia. Deed of Emancipation, Samuel King to Celia King, October 7, 1811, Prince William County Deed Book 4, page 335.
[24] *Palladium of Liberty*, June 7, 1822.
[25] *The War of the Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, by the United States War Department (1880-1901), Government Printing Office: Washington D.C.
[26] Robert E. Lee, Jr., October 21, 1863. Manuscripts Collection, Virginia Historical Society, Richmond.
[27] *The War of the Rebellion: Official Records.*
[28] "The Army of the Potomac – Buckland, scene of a cavalry skirmish with Stuart" (Engraving with diary excerpt from sketch artist Alfred Waud). *Harpers Weekly,* 14 November 1863, p. 725.

The Fauquier & Alexandria Turnpike in Buckland

by Stephen Fonzo

Long before the establishment of the town of Buckland in 1798, the Old Carolina Road was the primary road of access to the plantations of the region now encompassing Fauquier, Prince William, and Loudoun counties. Originating as an Indian trail, the Old Carolina Road extended from Frederick, Maryland across the Potomac River, southerly through the Piedmont Region of Virginia to North Carolina, roughly following the path of modern U.S. Route 15. By the early eighteenth century the road had gained importance as a trade route among colonial settlers.[1] Robert "King" Carter acquired the large Broad Run Tract, along the Carolina Road, from the sixth Lord Fairfax in 1724, and by the late eighteenth century the road had contributed to the development of several more towns and plantations, including Waterford, Leesburg, and Oak Hill.[2]

By 1775, several houses and shops were situated along Broad Run at the present location of Buckland, including at least one mill owned by Samuel Love. These buildings were connected to the Carolina Road by a private road that extended westward through the lands of Warren and Nash, and beside Love's mill, crossing Broad Run at a ford near the current location of the Buckland Mill. That year, Love petitioned Fauquier County and requested that the private road "be opened and made public – and sufficiently cleared for wagons to pass to the said mill…on publick [sic] and private occasions."[3] In 1779 Fauquier County ordered surveyors to determine the advantages of opening the old private road. Their subsequent report describes the road as having "been much used by the inhabitants of the neighborhood on their public and private business ever since our first knowledge of the place, which for some of us is upwards of thirty years" (i.e., ca.1749).[4]

The availability of a public road connecting the collection of old and new houses, shops, and mill to the Old Carolina Road stimulated more building and the growth of new businesses, so that in 1797 the citizens (including John Love, son of Samuel Love) petitioned the Virginia General Assembly to establish a town at Buckland. They note that at Buckland there were "already built upwards of twenty good houses occupied by tradesmen and merchants," including "considerable manufactorys of grain" and a stone distillery.[5] The General Assembly granted their request and on January 15, 1798, established a forty-eight lot plan for the town around the existing lots and the public road, with its old ford crossing near the mill, as well as a wooden bridge several yards downstream.[6] Upon the establishment of the town grid, this wooden bridge, and Bridge Street to which it was connected, occupied a corridor between lots 28 and 29, and 38 and 39.[7] Soon thereafter, in 1804, the Prince William County Court ordered that a new wooden bridge with stone abutments be built over Broad Run.[8] This court order was repeated in October of 1805, and by 1808 the bridge had been built east of lots 35 and 36, and south of lot 42, where the stone abutments remain, on opposite sides of Broad Run.[9] These abutments comprise a historic site recorded with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and recommended by the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Buckland Preservation Society as a contributing resource to the Buckland Historic District.[10]

Figure 11. *Elevation drawing for the timber bridge built at Cedar Run ca. 1805-1808. This neatly executed drawing included in the turnpike field notes provides good evidence for the original bridge at Broad Run, as the two bridges were authorized by the same orders in 1804 and 1805. Library of Virginia Archives.*

In 1808, the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike Company was established by a board of citizens from Buckland and neighboring areas, "for the purpose of making an artificial turnpike road first from Fauquier

Court House to Buckland farm or Buckland Town, and thence to the Little River Turnpike Road, at the most suitable point for affording a convenient way from Fauquier Court House to Alexandria."[11] Managed by the Virginia Board of Public Works and supported by the Fund for Internal Improvement, The F & A Turnpike eventually replaced the public road at Buckland. The new road served as the major regional transportation corridor from Warrenton to Fairfax throughout the nineteenth century, passing through the town of Buckland perpendicular to Mill Street, which functioned as the main street of the town. This turnpike, also known as the Warrenton Turnpike, ran east-west through the approximate center of the town and crossed Broad Run via the bridge built just previous to the establishment of the turnpike. Originally spanning a width of less than one lot across, the turnpike occupied the southern portions of approximately four lots (lots 5, 14, 23, and 32), to create a right-of-way leading to the bridge from the east and west.[12] George Britton, the first president of the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike Company, contracted in 1812 with the Directors of the company to construct ten miles of the turnpike road, in what would have been simple stone paving.[13] The next year he contracted for repairs to be made to the Broad Run bridge at Buckland.[14] Until 1823, tolls were not collected on the turnpike. During that year, there were three toll collectors on the turnpike, though documents do not indicate where they collected tolls and reveal a lack of toll-gates during the new road's early years.[15]

Continuous construction and repair would characterize the F & A Turnpike from 1812 until its final completion in the 1830s or 1840s. An 1820 survey map drawn by George Love, uncle of John Love, depicts the course of the new turnpike, and includes the first accurate map of Fauquier County.[16] By 1822, a twenty-mile segment extending from the Little River Turnpike to Buckland had been paved, most likely using one of the popular paving systems developed by Laommi Baldwin or Thomas Telford.[17] The primary reason for the prolonged construction of the road was the decision of the company Directors and State Principal Engineer Claudius Crozet to take up the existing road and re-pave it using the new process invented in 1816 by John Loudoun McAdam. This new system of paving consisted of fine, broken pebble layers of uniform thickness packed by rolling and tamping, and in which each stone was weighed and measured to ensure cementation. On the 16th of June, 1824, on one of his first American projects, Claudius Crozet, along with Major Jacob Morgan, finished his examination of the entire F & A Turnpike and designated the new eight-mile route from Buckland to Warrenton; thereafter the twenty-mile route from Fairfax Court-House to Buckland was referred to as the "old road".[18] By this time the whole road had been paved but was in need of repairs due to flooding and erosion. Crozet's survey led him to suggest a new McAdam surfacing for the Turnpike, and on December 31, 1824, the General Assembly amended the act of incorporation of the company to require a road of 16.5 feet width, laid in the McAdam method, from Buckland to Warrenton.[19]

Starting in 1823, prior to the initiative to pave using the McAdam method, the F & A Turnpike Company received stock subscriptions from the Board of Public Works.[20] It is of note that in 1824, Hugh Smith, Director of the F & A Turnpike Company, is listed in the Prince William County Land Tax Books as owning 675 acres of taxable property, property which is identified simply as "Turnpike Road." This land was valued at $9.00/acre, with a sum of $1500 added to the land value on account of new buildings.[21] These buildings would not appear to be toll-houses, which had not yet been built, but may have included the Stagecoach Inn (demolished ca. 1935) at Buckland, thus suggesting the year of its construction on Lot 6. Further documentary and archaeological research will resolve this ambiguity.

At the end of 1825, in the F & A Turnpike Company Treasurer's Report, Jacob Morgan notes that "there has also been a new and substantial stone bridge erected over an important water course, in the place of an old wooden one taken down," and though he does not specify the location, most likely it was the stone bridge over Bull Run. By late 1826, four miles of the "new road" and over two miles of the "old road" had been taken up and laid in McAdam surfacing, and at this point one more toll collector was hired, making four toll keepers in total.[22] The F & A Turnpike became the first road in Virginia to be paved using the McAdam method, and the third in the United States, after the Boonsborough Turnpike in Maryland and the National/Cumberland Road between Wheeling (then in Virginia) and Zanesville, Ohio.[23] In the Principal Engineer's Examination of 1826, Crozet notes that the "old road [is] in very bad order, especially from the Little River Turnpike to Centreville," because the capping stones

were too large. However, the 2.5-mile stretch of road extending from Buckland eastward, was the best portion of the entire turnpike, according to Crozet, and had a width of 20 feet instead of the 16.5-foot width of the "new road" from Buckland to Warrenton. This latter segment was in good condition, but Crozet suggested culverts to improve drainage, and notes that the bridge at Buckland was carried away "in a freshet; it will shortly be re-built." His report of 1826 is of further significance by including a discussion of the dimensions for the road required by the General Assembly and his disagreement over the positions of ditches and summer roads. Future archaeological investigations will illuminate the methods of construction and the extent to which Crozet and the F & A Turnpike Company altered these stipulated road specifications for width, thickness, paths, and ditch placement.[24]

By the end of 1827, five additional miles of the "old road" had been "McAdamized," leaving fifteen miles of the eastern portion to be paved in the new method.[25] The cost of re-laying the road was $2000/mile at this point, but within one year had increased to $4200/mile.[26] The F & A Turnpike Company petitioned the General Assembly to authorize a public lottery to raise funds, a request that was granted in 1829 for an amount up to, but not exceeding $30,000. By this time, the entire "new road" was re-paved, making a total distance of over twelve McAdam miles on the F & A Turnpike. Also by this time, a new line of mail coaches had been opened, with service along the F & A Turnpike through Buckland, where there was already an early inland post office, in operation from the years 1800 to 1907.[27] In 1829, the number of toll-collectors had risen to six, each located at a newly constructed toll-house, each gate located approximately five miles apart. The Turnpike had two side roads, each eleven feet wide, for summer use.[28] From the years 1830 to 1834, funds were continually unavailable and no progress was made on the McAdam renovation to the turnpike, leaving completion of the road until the late 1830s or 1840s, by which point, Board of Public Works Reports no longer include any significant discussions of the F & A Turnpike Company.[29] Documentation of the turnpike does not resume again until the Civil War, with the exception of fleeting mention in a few deeds for lots in the town.

Both the turnpike and the bridge at Buckland played a role in the Civil War. The foremost military operation at Buckland was the Battle of Buckland Mills, which occurred on October 19, 1863. This cavalry engagement involved forces under the command of Union Generals Judson Kilpatrick, George Armstrong Custer, and Henry Davies, and Confederate Generals J.E.B. Stuart, Fitzhugh Lee, and Pierce Young, among others. This battle, part of the Bristoe Station campaign, would be one of the last Confederate cavalry victories in the war. The victory was made possible by Stuart's clever, false retreat and ambush of forces commanded by Kilpatrick and Davies along the turnpike from Buckland to Warrenton, and the capture by Young and Rosser of the Buckland Bridge from Custer, who had earlier fired on the town from the hills of Cerro Gordo. The sketch artist Alfred Waud was present at this battle and composed a detailed drawing of the town of Buckland (and Custer firing upon it) along Broad Run, with its Mill, Church, Tavern, shops, and houses standing much as they do today. Earlier in the war, during the Northern Virginia Campaign, Union forces under General Franz Sigel occupied Buckland Bridge, after repairing it from a Confederate attempt to burn the bridge, and made the location their strategic headquarters before the Second Battle of Manassas in late August 1862. Accounts from *The War of the Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies* (OR Series), by the United States War Department (1880-1901) contain detailed descriptions of even the most minor military activity that took place at Buckland throughout the period 1861-1865, and these records are augmented by unofficial accounts preserved in letters and diaries.

As early as 1870, petitions were being filed with Prince William County to replace the wooden bridge at Buckland with an iron bridge supported on the early stone abutments. Periodic flooding and attacks during the Civil War had damaged the wooden bridge, and so commissioners were appointed to advertise and oversee the construction of the new iron frame. Their applications, reports, orders, advertisements, and bids are contained in the Prince William County Courthouse Manuscripts Collection.[30] Contrary to Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) documentation, the iron truss bridge at Buckland was not in use during the Civil War, but instead was completed as a replacement for the stone and wooden-frame bridge around 1890.

The old bridge at Buckland was finally abandoned in 1927, when a concrete bridge was

built just to the north of the stone abutments, and the Turnpike itself was shifted northward, widened, and paved with asphalt by VDOT, though it continued to carry two lanes of traffic. At this point, the road was re-named U.S. Route 29, the name it retains today. In 1953, VDOT expanded Route 29 from two lanes to four, adding a pair of lanes to the north of the old road, separated by a grass median, and carried across Broad Run on a new concrete bridge. During this phase of construction, the full area of Town Lots 5, 14, 23, 31 and 32 were condemned, their buildings demolished, and their surfaces paved in asphalt. Several historic structures and parcels of land were destroyed by this construction project, but this remains the only ground area of the town's cultural landscape lost to modern development. The two 1927 lanes were converted to northbound lanes, and the bridge on this northbound segment was replaced in 1980 by VDOT. As mentioned above, the stone bridge abutments remain on either side of Broad Run just south of the northbound lanes of U.S. Route 29, and a 70-yard segment of the old Turnpike roadbed and right-of-way survives intact and amenable to archeological investigation and historic preservation. Such investigations will naturally interface with archeology of the Civil War activities at Buckland, as well as activities on adjacent town lots, such as Lot 6, which contains the site of the Stagecoach Inn.

FIGURE 12. *Stone bridge abutment at Broad Run, Buckland. This abutment dates to the construction of a timber bridge across Broad Run in 1808, and later served as the support for an iron bridge built in 1890 and replaced in 1927. The road bed of the early turnpike survives for approximately 70 yards to the west of the abutment. Buckland Preservation Society, 2004.*

FIGURE 13. *The 1953 bridge at Buckland. This bridge was constructed to carry the new, southbound lanes of Route 29 when the highway was expanded from two lanes to four in 1953. Alfredo Maul for Buckland Preservation Society, 2005.*

NOTES

[1] Scheel, Eugene (2005). "The Carolina Road" (Internet article – The History of Loudoun County, Virginia). http://www.loudounhistory.org/history/carolina-road.htm. Karnes, Debrarae (1998). "The History of the Prince William County Waterfront." (Internet article – Division of Long Range Planning, Prince William County Planning Office). http://www.co.prince-william.va.us/docLibrary/PDF/000586.pdf.

[2] Broad Run Tract conveyance, Lord Fairfax to John Carter and Charles Carter (18 September 1724). Northern Neck Land Grants Book A, Page 70. Prince William County Courthouse Archives, Manassas, VA.

[3] Love, Samuel (1775). Road Petition, for public road to Samuel Love's Mill from the Old Carolina Road. Road & Bridges File No. 1775-003, Fauquier County Courthouse, Warrenton, VA.

[4] Report of surveyors (William Matthis, William Roach, and Henry Taylor) to Fauquier County February Court, 1779. Road & Bridges File No. 1775-003, Fauquier County Courthouse.

[5] Petition to establish the town of Buckland (08 December 1797). General Assembly Legislative Petitions, 1776-1865, Prince William County, Box 210, Folder 52, Library of Virginia.

[6] "An Act to Establish Several Towns" (15 January 1798). Virginia General Assembly Session Laws, 1794-1812, Chapter LXIX (1798), p. 33, Library of Virginia.

[7] Brown, C. Allan (2004). "Buckland Cultural Landscape Map." Gainesville, VA: Buckland Preservation Society.

Blake, David William (2004). "Forty-eight lot plan of the town of Buckland (Map based on primary sources)." Gainesville, VA: Buckland Preservation Society.

[8] Order to build two bridges, of wooden frame with stone abutments, over Broad Run and Cedar Run (01 October 1804). Prince William County Order Book 1, pp. 22-24. Prince William County Courthouse.

[9] Order to compensate creditors (08 October 1805). Prince William County Order Book, 8 October 1805, pp. 264. Prince William County Courthouse.

[10] Virginia Department of Transportation (2005), "Recorded Historic Properties Near the VDOT Project Area," Route 15 SBL Deck Replacement Project (Bridge No. 015-076-1027). This brief, attached to a letter addressed to the Buckland Preservation Society, describes four historic properties in the area of the VDOT bridge deck replacement project. These resources, as recorded by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, are the Buckland Historic District (076-0313), Buckland Mills Battlefield (030-5152), Stone Abutments on Broad Run (076-5121), and the 1953 VDOT Bridge over Broad Run (076-5120).

[11] An Act Incorporating a Company to Establish a Turnpike from the Little River Turnpike Road, to Fauquier Court House (27 January 1808). Virginia General Assembly Session Laws, 1794-1812, Chapter XXVII (1808), pp. 29-35, Library of Virginia.

[12] Blake, David William (2004). "Forty-eight lot plan of the town of Buckland (Map based on primary sources)." Gainesville, VA: Buckland Preservation Society.

[13] Agreement, George Britton and Directors of Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike Company (30 Dec 1812), 4 pp.. Virginia Historical Society Manuscripts: Richmond.

[14] Account book of George Britton, 1813-1818. Virginia Historical Society Manuscripts: Richmond. George Britton's account book contains records of business transactions, including work done on the Broad Run Bridge at Buckland, 15 September 1813 and 9 August 1814, and the sale of whiskey produced in the Buckland Distillery.

[15] Tolls were collected on the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike starting in 1823, when on January 7th the Virginia General Assembly authorized toll collection on the road (Virginia General Assembly Session Laws microfilm, Library of Virginia). The earliest specific documentary reference to toll collectors is contained in the 1826 Treasurer's Report of the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike Company, in which Treasurer Jacob Morgan notes that the number of toll collectors increased by one, to make four total. Morgan, Jacob. 31 October 1826, Return of the state of the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike Company, from 1 Nov 1825, to 1 Nov 1826. Library of Virginia Microfilm Series 372, *Annual Reports of the Virginia Board of Public Works, 1816-1845*. (Thomas Ritchie and Shepherd and Pollard: Richmond, 1816-1845.)

[16] Love, George (03 August 1820). County map of northern Virginia, annexed to petitions for the formation of a new county. General Assembly Legislative Petitions, 1776-1865, Box 73, Folder 8, Library of Virginia.

[17] An Act Respecting the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike Company, 27 February 1822. Eighth Annual Report of the Board of Public Works, Library of Virginia Microfilm Series 372, *Annual Reports of the Virginia Board of Public Works, 1816-1845*. "McAdam Roads: A Product of the Revolution." From Howard Newton, Jr., Nathaniel Mason Pawlett, et al, *Backsight,* (Richmond: Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation, 1985, pp. 69-70).

[18] Crozet, Claudius (20 Dec 1824). Principal Engineer's Examination, Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike. Ninth Annual Report of the Board of Public Works, Library of Virginia Microfilm Series 372, *Annual Reports of the Virginia Board of Public Works, 1816-1845*.

[19] Amendatory Act, to An Act Incorporating a Company to Establish a Turnpike from the Little River Turnpike Road, to Fauquier Court House (31 December 1824). Ninth Annual Report of the Board of Public Works, Library of Virginia Microfilm Series 372, *Annual Reports of the Virginia Board of Public Works, 1816-1845*.

[20] An Act, Authorising the Board of Public Works to subscribe for three hundred shares of the stock of the Fauquier and Alexandria turnpike company, and for other purposes (13 Jan 1823). Eighth Annual Report of the Board of Public Works, Library of Virginia Microfilm Series 372.

[21] Prince William County Land Tax Books, 1782-1861 (Microfilm). Bull Run Regional Library, Manassas, VA.

[22] Morgan, Jacob (31 October 1826). Return of the state of the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike Company, from 1 Nov 1825, to 1 Nov 1826. Library of Virginia Microfilm Series 372, *Annual Reports of the Virginia Board of Public Works, 1816-1845*.

[23] "McAdam Roads: A Product of the Revolution," Howard Newton, Jr., et al, *Backsight*, pp. 69-70).

[24] Crozet, Claudius (1826). Principal Engineer's Examination, Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike. Tenth Annual Report of the Board of Public Works, Library of Virginia Microfilm Series 372, *Annual Reports of the Virginia Board of Public Works, 1816-1845*.

[25] Morgan, Jacob (8 December 1827). Return of the state of the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike Company. Eleventh Annual Report of the Board of Public Works, Library of Virginia Microfilm

Series 372, *Annual Reports of the Virginia Board of Public Works, 1816-1845*.

[26] Smith, Hugh (29 November 1828). Return of the state of the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike Company. Twelfth Annual Report of the Board of Public Works, Library of Virginia Microfilm Series 372, *Annual Reports of the Virginia Board of Public Works, 1816-1845*.

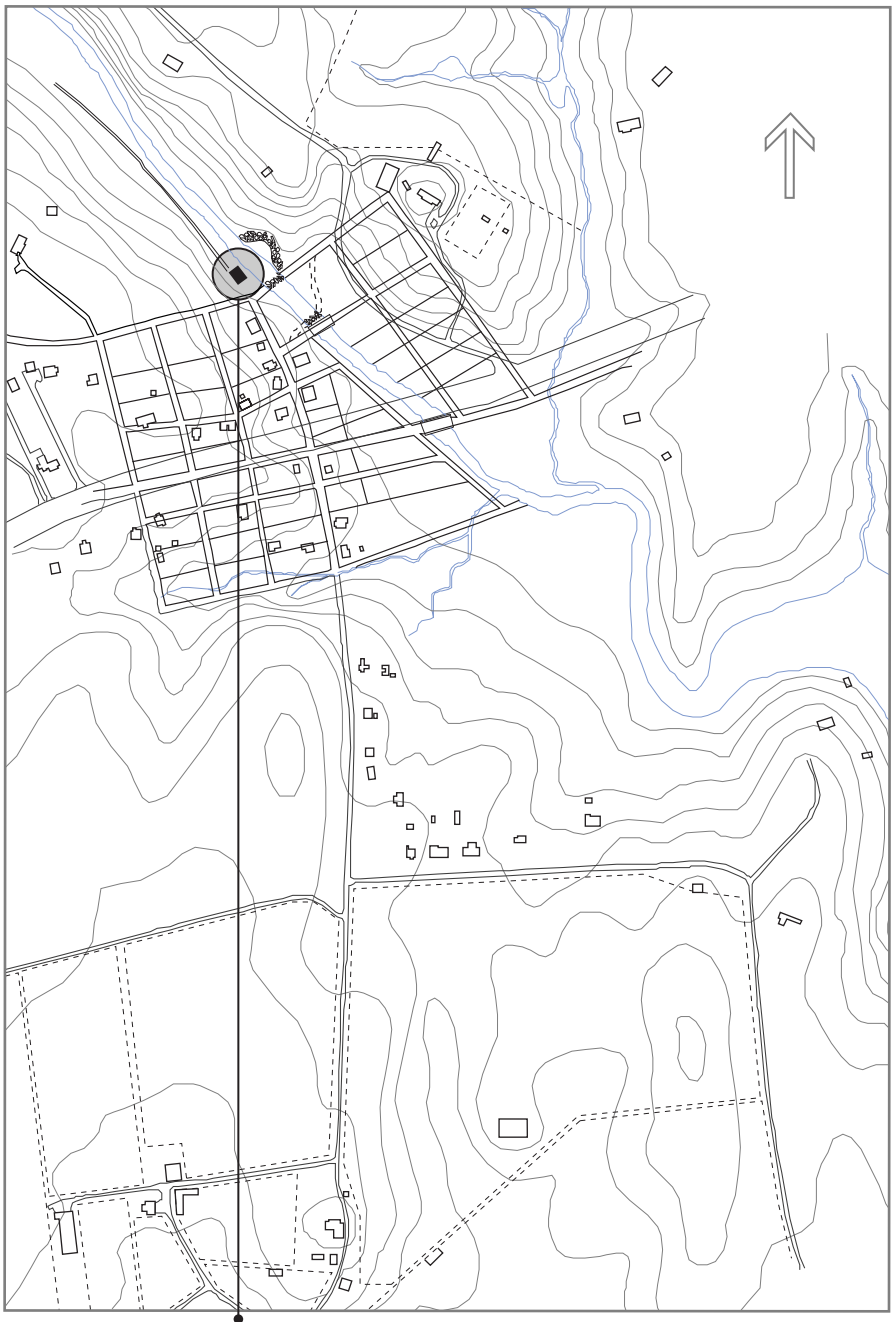
[27] Advertisement, "New Line of Mail Coaches." *Alexandria Gazette* Volume III, Number 535, p. 4 (16 March 1827). Bull Run Regional Library Microfilm: Manassas, VA. Record of United States Post Offices, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington D.C.

[28] An Act authorizing a Lottery to improve the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike (31 February 1829). Thirteenth Annual Report of the Board of Public Works, Library of Virginia Microfilm Series 372, *Annual Reports of the Virginia Board of Public Works, 1816-1845*. Morgan, Jacob (2 December 1829). Return of the state of the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike Company. Thirteenth Annual Report of the Board of Public Works.

[29] Fifteenth through Nineteenth Annual Reports of the Board of Public Works (1830-1834), Library of Virginia Microfilm Series 372, *Annual Reports of the Virginia Board of Public Works, 1816-1845*.

[30] Manuscripts Collection, Prince William County Courthouse, Loose Papers Box 1, Bundle 11; Box 2, Bundle 10; and Box 2, Bundle 6.

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE REPORT 1



Buckland Grist Mill

Calvert's Mill

8090 Buckland Mill Road

DHR No. 76-112

ca. 1771-1774; mid 19th-century; ca. 1904; ca. 1970




FIGURE 1-1. *South Elevation. Broad Run is visible to the right of the building, and the mill race followed the tree line behind the lean-to shed, bringing water from a dam that was located about one-quarter mile upstream. When the light strikes the building at a raking angle, it is possible to make out promotional advertising stenciled onto the siding between the second-story windows, now covered by white paint.*

SIGNIFICANCE

The Buckland Mill is the last extant example of a grist mill in Prince William County.[1] One local history states that there were as many as fifty such structures in the county at one time, but one by one they have fallen victim to the changing economy and the ravages of time, war, flood, and fire.[2] The present building is believed to be the third mill built on this site, and retains architectural fabric from all three periods. The first of these mills was constructed in the early 1770s by Walker Taliaferro, and it seems likely that the early hewn and pit-sawn structural members recycled in this building are from that structure. A second period of salvaged material is circular sawn, representing a building period of 1850s or later, and the present building incorporates building materials and technology typical of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Two inscribed stones in the southeast corner of the foundation indicate that the present building was constructed in 1904 by a local builder named H. W. Gough.

The building that stands on this site today exhibits an array of significant features. It is constructed directly on exposed bedrock, and the wheel pit is carved out of uplifted rock strata. The size of this pit indicates it was intended for a traditional water wheel, but secondary sources indicate the water wheel was replaced with a water turbine. The structural frame combines circular-sawn and band-sawn timber, some of remarkable size. The principal east-west beams measure 36 feet in length, and the first-floor ceiling joists run without interruption for 40 feet. The side walls extend up into the attic story, creating sufficient room for this to serve as an important part of the four-story grain processing system. The building has lost all but the most ephemeral traces of its power system, grinding mechanisms, and storage arrangements, but retains a full complement of sifting and grading machines on the upper floor. Also surviving are parts of the grain-lifting system, including the drive shaft, conveyor belts and boxed housings. The machinery that survives can be identified by manufacturer, a company in Michigan, and bears patent dates from the 1890s. These machines may have served duty in the second mill, but more likely were purchased for the third or present building, constructed in 1904.

FIGURE 1-2. *View from Northeast. The mill race arrived at the mill at the right margin of this photograph and was carried by a flume to the portal directly below the door in the center of the north gable elevation.*

The Buckland Grist Mill stands as a rare survival of a once-essential part of the agricultural economy of rural Virginia. It can be traced back to the late colonial period, when western Prince William County was a gateway to the Shenandoah Valley and the western frontier. In the 1790s, this mill seat became the foundation around which a small and prosperous village grew, a place that could combine the benefits of water power with its strategic location on the road to Warrenton and points west. The development of a turnpike road in the early nineteenth century, macadamized by the early 1820s, and a thriving local farm community ensured continuing prosperity for roughly a century and a half. In more recent times, changes in the local economy and in the milling industry combined to end the mill's usefulness as a processing center, and it has passed on

to other uses. Nevertheless, it remains the single most visible landmark in the village of Buckland, a poignant reminder of the prosperity enjoyed by this community when farming and local industry were an essential part of the economy.

FIGURE 1-3. *View from Southwest. The lean-to shed post-dates the building's use as a mill.*

Historical Summary

The Buckland Mill is located on the west bank of Broad Run, a tributary of the Occoquan River, approximately one-tenth mile north of Lee Highway. The modern highway follows a path that has served for travelers from Alexandria to points west since the middle of the eighteenth century. The present structure is believed to be the third grist mill on this site. The first of these was built by Walker Taliaferro following his purchase of a large tract of land from the Carter family in 1771. There is no mention of a mill in the deed by which Taliaferro acquired the land, but when he sold it in 1774 to Samuel Love, the property is described as

> all that tract or parcel of land lying on broad run in the Countys of Fauquier & Prince William…containing twelve hundred fifty acres more or less…to be accompt for in proportion to the price given the mill that is erected on the aforesaid land with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging together with all the other improvements now on the said land…the said Taliaferro further agrees to have sow'd on the said Land for the said Love Seventy Bushells of wheat in any part of the Corn or Tobacco Ground as the said Love shall direct.[3]

The mill property remained in the Love family until 1804, when John and Elizabeth Love and their daughter Jane and son-in-law Josiah Watson, sold the "Merchant Mill and Tract of Land" to Joseph Dean for $16,000, a remarkable sum of money for the time. The boundary description for the land begins "on Broad run at the Town of Buckland where Love Street crosses said Run," continues up Love Street to Franklin Street and then describes an irregular tract that encompasses 66 acres on the western and northern sides of the village, extending from the Warrenton road up to the sweeping curve of Broad Run on the north and east.[4] By 1818, Joseph Dean had also purchased Lot No. 1 in Buckland, the lot directly across Love Street from the Mill.[5] This lot was improved by a log and frame building that was built in the 1790s by Samuel Love, Jr. and used by him as a store. The lot passed through the ownership of William Brooks and John Love, perhaps continuing to serve as a store. With Dean's purchase, however, it seems likely the building was converted to use as a residence for the miller, a function that it probably served for the rest of the nineteenth century.[6]

Joseph Dean died in 1818, and his will was probated in Fairfax County Court. In 1819, acting as Dean's executor, Hugh Smith sold three parcels of Dean's land at public auction to David and Jonathan Ross of Alexandria for $16,400. The first property was the 66-acre mill property "including the merchant mills called Buckland Mills." A second tract was located along the eastern side of Broad Run, bounded on the south by the "Turnpike road." This property, later described as encompassing 23 acres, included several interesting exceptions and conditions. Excepted from the sale were lots previously sold by John Love to George Britton and Samuel King, the latter a free African American who lived in a house on Lot 38 with his wife Celia. Two special conditions were noted. The first reserved to John Love and his heirs "the rights to quarry raise or carry away any Stone for building which may be found in quarries on the said land or in any part of it." The second reserved to Love and his heirs the rights to

> one half of the Coal if any should be found on the said land or any part of it and it was agreed between the said Love and Dean for themselves and their heirs, that if any such Coal mine should be found on said [land] worth working that they would work the Same in Partnership each contributing equally to the expenses incident to Beginning and going on with said business.[7]

The third parcel sold on behalf of Joseph Dean's estate was Lot No. 1 with "the dwelling house erected thereon." The Rosses executed two indentures in July of 1819, using the three Dean properties as security for debts incurred by the purchase.[8] They failed to meet the terms of the loans, and on January 15, 1822, a trustee sold all three parcels to Thomas Smith, also of Alexandria, this time for $8,005.[9] Thomas Smith used the property repeatedly as security to finance debt, and his creditors included Hugh Smith, Joseph Dean's executor and, later, Bernard Hooe, both of Alexandria.

An indenture executed by Hugh and Thomas Smith in November 1829 included a fourth tract of land (containing 118 acres) and added one new descriptive detail. Included in the boiler-plate guarantees at the end of the indenture was Hugh Smith's assurance that he would "warrant and defend the said two undivided third parts of the said Lot and of the said Land, Mill, Distillery, and their appurtenances to the said Thomas Smith his Heirs and assigns forever." This is the only reference located thus far to a distillery directly associated with the Buckland Mill lands. Primary documentation exists for a substantial distillery in Buckland as early as 1801, located directly adjacent to the mill and miller's residence on Lots 28 and 29. It is unclear if the 1829 reference is related to that operation, or if a second distillery may have been operating on the lands associated with the mill.[10]

By 1845, Thomas Smith's complicated business dealings forced his Buckland lands onto the auction block. Exercising the right to sell Smith's land based on an 1830 indenture, Bernard Hooe sold three tracts of land at public auction to Joseph D. Smith for $6221.23. Included in the sale were

> a tract of land commonly called "Old Mr. Watson's lot" near the town of Buckland; containing thirty six acres more or less and known in said town as "the meadow" on which is a small tenement, also a lot in the town of Buckland, on which is a frame dwelling, at present occupied by the said Joseph D. Smith mother & family…Also about Sixty six acres of Land adjoining said town, on which is seated a large mill being a frame building three stories high and a large Factory 60 by 40 feet, Covered with slate. Also about forty seven or eight acres of Land…purchased of John H. Carter.[11]

Watson's land adjoined the southern edge of Buckland, and the frame house occupied by Joseph Smith probably is the miller's residence on Lot No. 1. The "large Factory" refers to a woolen mill that had been constructed on the Buckland Mill land, presumably represented today by the ruins located about fifty yards north of the present mill, carved into the sloping river terrace just below the mill race.

Joseph Smith only held the mill for a few years and in 1847 sold the property to Robert H. Hunton. The Hunton family owned extensive lands west of Buckland and were actively involved in a variety of local enterprises. Town tax records assess Lot No. 1, the miller's residence, to Robert H. Hunton in 1851 and to "Hunton & Bros." in 1860, 1865, 1874 and 1877. The 1847 deed identified one new element added to the mill complex. During Joseph Smith's two-year ownership, the woolen factory was expanded to include a "Dye house recently erected and built of stone." Another clause in the deed indicates that the Huntons already were actively involved in the mill and factory. The sale included "All the old Machinery formerly used by The Smiths & Huntons. All the Machinery & belonging to and used in and about the Mill [is] hereby conveyed."[12]

In 1869, John B. Hunton advertised the woolen manufactory in a broadsheet that proclaimed the quality of their woolen goods:

> The undersigned have started an enterprise in which the public are deeply interested. It is to supply a want of our people in an article that enters into general consumption….It is known that a large proportion of the woolen goods now manufactured are shoddy. We are manufacturing at Buckland, Prince William County, Virginia, a GENUINE article of woolen fabrics to suit all conditions and classes of wearers…
>
> Our general traveling agent is Mr. ADDISON TURNER, who will have all orders filled that are given him, on the shortest notice. Address
>
> JNO. B. HUNTON & CO.,
> BUCKLAND,
> Prince William County, Va.[13]

Figure 1-4. *Stone foundation and tail-race portal, east elevation. The sills for the frame superstructure are recycled from the first-period mill, as demonstrated by a careful examination of the window openings. The bottom faces of the sills are exposed above these openings, and reveal hand-hewn surfaces and vacant mortises, indicating they have been recycled for this building.*

The Huntons continued to operate the Buckland Mill into the 1870s, but by 1878 it had been acquired by Ross Campbell of Baltimore, who died before he had completed the purchase.[14] It took a new round of legal wrangling to resolve the ownership following Campbell's death, and it seems likely that by the 1890s the mill had fallen into disrepair; local tradition indicates that the woolen mill burned sometime after 1869. In October 1901, Irven R. Wolverton purchased the Buckland Mill property.[15] When he sought financing the following May, the description of the property to be secured included the mill, 40 acres, a lot in Buckland that can be identified as No. 28, and "All of the pine and oak lumber now upon said two tracts or parcels of land, and piled thereon, and containing 60,000 feet board measure, more or less."[16] Clearly, Wolverton had spent the winter preparing to make a major new investment in the mill. It took several indentures to secure Wolverton's finances, and the lumber continued to serve as security as late as the day after Christmas, 1903.[17] Further transactions involving Wolverton and the mill property in October 1905 omit any reference to the lumber, and this evidence combined with the "1904" date carved in a foundation stone of the present mill indicate that construction finally must have gotten underway in the spring of 1904 under the direction of a local builder named H. W. Gough.[18]

Construction of the new mill must have proved to be a greater expense than Wolverton could handle, for on April 7, 1906, he sold the Buckland Mill property to George W. Calvert. To complete the deal, Wolverton's principal creditors agreed to defer the first debt payment by one year. As further evidence that Wolverton had undertaken construction of a new mill, the indenture also included a clause relating to the payment of workmen. Wolverton agreed to "pay all debts against I. R. Wolverton and George W. Calvert, for work and improvements upon the property hereby conveyed, prior to Feb. 1st, 1906."[19]

George Calvert was sufficiently successful in his operation of the Buckland Mill that the property is often still referred to in Prince William County as "Calvert Mill." The present owners found and have preserved a stack of receipts from the Calvert ownership. These receipts were custom printed with Calvert's name and business:

GEO. W. CALVERT
MILLER
DEALER IN FEED AND GRAIN
Our McCaskey Register Keeps Correct Accounts
Buckland, Va., _____ 190____

Printed in a column down the first five lines of the receipt were the most likely products to be sold—flour, meal, corn, bran, and middlings. Typical entries are in pencil, dated April 1909, usually for flour at $5.50 per barrel, and meal at $0.75 per bushel.[20]

George Calvert sold the Buckland Mill in 1915 and the property passed through a succession of owners.[21] By the early 1970s, the first floor had been cleared of milling machinery and had been partitioned to form two large box stalls for riding horses.[22] Today, the horses are gone and the building provides expansive storage space, while sifting and grading machines on the upper story remain as testimony to the ambitions of Irven Wolverton and George Calvert.

Architectural Description: Exterior

The Buckland Mill is constructed into the hillside that forms the west side of Broad Run, sited approximately 20 yards west of the riverbank. The mill is of frame construction on a stone foundation, measuring 36 by 40 feet, with the ridge of the pitched gable roof

oriented on the north-south axis, and the south gable serving as the principal façade. The building is 2½ stories on a full, one-story stone foundation constructed directly on bedrock. The breadth of the building from east to west, at 36 feet, and the pitched gable roof provide a generously proportioned attic story, enhanced by extending the side walls of the principal frame up 24 inches above the attic floor. This combination of full cellar and attic story creates four stories of useful work space. Two stones on the southeast corner of the foundation are inscribed "H. W. Gough 190…" and "1904".

FIGURE 1-5. *Cornerstone at east end of south façade. H. W. Gough is believed to be the builder rather than the owner or miller. Here, the last digit of the date has spalled off, but a second stone on the east wall is marked 1904.*

The mill was served by a dam constructed across Broad Run approximately one-quarter mile upstream. The dam was destroyed by flooding sometime prior to 1973, but traces of the dam survive, and it can be documented by early maps, a plat dated 1895, and at least two photographs.[23] The mill race survives reasonably intact, extending along the west bank of Broad Run to within a few yards of the building, at which point it would have transitioned into a wood flume that joined the race to the cellar level of the building. A deep wheel pit is cut down into the bedrock across the north portion of the mill's cellar, and is presumed to have served a conventional overshot wheel in the nineteenth century. The present mill is said to have been powered by a water turbine, a technological improvement adopted in many mills in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The principal gable faces south down Mill Street to Lee Highway. The main entrance door is located in the centre of the first story, flanked on the left by a six-over-six window and on the right by a secondary door. The principal door opening measures 4'-5" wide by 7'-3" high, and is fitted with a pair of plank doors constructed of two layers of one-inch boards. These are a uniform 6 5/8" wide, struck with a ¼" bead and a tongue-and-groove joint. The outer face is composed of vertical boards, joined to the diagonally laid inner layer with large wood screws. The doors retain one pair of the original steel strap hinges (elongated triangular straps, in the twentieth-century use of the term), which were bolted to the door leaves and secured to the face of the interior trim with screws. Scars indicate the presence of a lock but offer little clear evidence of the type. The secondary door opening (in the east bay) is narrower, measuring 2'-8" wide by 7'-4" high. It is fitted with a door of similar but not identical construction. The exterior surface is composed of 5" vertical boards beaded to appear to be 2½" wide, while the interior face is divided into two panels of similar diagonal, beaded boards framed with flush stiles and rails; the two layers of sheathing are secured with wire nails. The door is hung on the original pair of steel hinges, which match the original hinges on the principal door.

The first floor window opening in the west bay measures 2'-11" wide by 4'-7" high and is fitted with six-over-six sash with 10" by 12" panes. Similarly proportioned six-over-six windows are located in the east and west bays of the second story and the upper gable. A small, louvered opening is located just below the gable eave at the east end of the upper gable, providing ventilation to the southeast corner of the attic story. The central bay at foundation level is dedicated to a sloping ramp that provides access to the main door; cellar window openings are located to either side in the east and west bays of the stone foundation. The entrance ramp is earthen, enclosed on either side by stone retaining walls, and has been paved with concrete. A patch in this concrete is inscribed "1973," possibly an indication of repairs necessitated by damage from Hurricane Agnes in June 1972. The cellar window openings measure 3'-2" wide by 3'-0" to 3'-2" high and are located directly under the wood sill that anchors the structural frame to the stone foundation. The window frames are beaded on the exterior face and are rabbetted for stop bead, some of which remains in place, indicating that the openings originally were fitted with sash, now lost. It is noteworthy that the wood sill of the building is recycled, as demonstrated by vacant

mortises in the bottom face of the hewn timber.

The exterior of the building is sheathed with coved drop ("German" or "novelty") siding applied with wire nails; the siding displays a 4¾" to 5" exposure, and stops against plain corner boards and plain window and door trim. A frieze board, perhaps 12 inches wide, returns at the base of the gable and is carried up the gable eaves; this serves as a termination for the siding. The roof oversails at the gable eaves by about 12" and is finished with a soffit board nailed to the underside of the shingle nailers; this in turn is trimmed with a barge board (approximately 1" by 5") that is neither molded nor tapered. The foundation is laid with native stone that has been lightly worked to maximize flat surfaces, laid up neatly with a lime-based mortar. A stone at the east end of the south foundation wall is inscribed "H. W. Gough 190…" The last numeral has spalled off with the exception of the beginning stroke of what appears to be a "4", a numeral consistent with a second stone on the south end of the east foundation wall, inscribed "1904."

A painted promotional business sign is faintly visible through later layers of paint. This inscription was executed in large block letters within a painted border, and was located in the center of the south gable; it is only visible in strong, raking light. A partial translation is:

SUPERIOR…
MEAL FEEDS…
GRAIN PRODUCTS…
GEO. A. VUSE, PROP.

Rafters chopped off flush with the siding provide evidence of a one-story, shed-roof porch or loading dock that extended across the center and west bays of the south gable.

The east elevation of the building is set parallel with the creek at the transition from the low river terrace to the sloping hillside. The rugged bedrock breaks above grade, and the stone foundation wall is constructed directly on that rocky base, with an overall height above grade of about 11 feet. A broad opening (approximately 8 feet across) at the north end of the foundation marks the exit opening for the water in the wheel pit. This opening is framed with a heavy piece of iron or steel that serves as a lintel. This piece measures 5" by 5½" and appears to be recycled from some industrial function and is presumed to date to 1904, inserted into the opening of the earlier foundation, an assumption reinforced by four courses of brickwork above the opening. Three cellar window openings pierce the stone foundation on this elevation; the masonry openings measure 3'-2" wide by 4'-0" high and are fitted with beaded wood frames rabbeted for stop bead, but now lacking sash. Three window openings are symmetrically spaced on the first and second stories as well. Five of these six openings are fitted with the same six-over-six sash described for the south gable. The north opening on the second story is fitted with two-over-two sash; interior framing indicates this opening is original and the sash is replaced. The siding, corner boards, and trim on this elevation match the details of the south gable. The rafters oversail at the eaves by approximately 18 inches and are mitered on a horizontal plane to receive a vertical trim board of about 4½ or 5" in height. The roof is covered with standing-seam metal roof.

On the north gable, the most important feature is a blocked opening in the center of the stone foundation. This is the entry point for water from the mill race to discharge into the wheel pit. The original opening measures 5'-2" wide by 6'-5" high (measured from the outside; an inside dimension is not accessible); it is framed by a pair of masonry retaining walls, one constructed of poured concrete and the other of concrete block. These are presumed to be remnants of the race, most likely associated with the flume and gate that would have controlled water flow to the wheel. The walls also supported a small deck visible in historic photographs and served by the first-story door immediately above this feature. The raceway opening in the foundation was blocked up after the water power system was abandoned. This was accomplished using concrete block, creating a much smaller opening (1'-11¼" by 3'-9¾") fitted with a three-light window sash hinged at the top.

The foundation of the north gable wall is 9 feet high at the east (downhill) end and extends just 3 inches above grade at the west end. A wrought-iron, S-shaped bearing plate at the east end of the foundation was installed at some point to strengthen that corner of the building. It is noteworthy that this element is hand-forged, suggesting it predates the Civil War, and could be the work of local blacksmiths Richard Gill (working in Buckland by 1797; died ca. 1850) or John Trone (working by ca. 1825; died 1885). The wood sill

of the structure is partially exposed on this elevation by deteriorated siding. As on the south and east walls, this sill is hand-hewn and recycled, revealing vacant mortises on the bottom face. Due to missing siding, it is possible to see that the posts for the first story door are tenoned and pinned into the sill, and the pin is visible for a corner brace that reinforces the northeast corner post.

FIGURE 1-6. *View looking north into the northeast corner of the cellar level, showing the wheel or turbine pit cut from stratified bedrock, and the partially collapsed stair to the first floor cantilevered across the pit. Water was delivered to the wheel or turbine through the opening at left (later reduced and converted to a window) and flowed out of the building through the portal under the stairs. Grease stains on the far wall, a chopped-out joist, and grease-stained vertical posts offer some clues to the location and alignment of the missing drive system.*

Other openings in the north gable include the previously mentioned door, located in the center bay of the first story, and window openings in the east and west bays of the first and second stories as well as in the upper gable. This door is similar in size (2'-7" by 7'-5¼" high) and construction to the secondary door on the south gable. All of these window openings are original and presumably all were fitted with six-over-six sash, which survives intact in two of the six openings. Only one sash remains in the east window at first and second story level; the west window on the first story now has two-over-two sash, and the west window on the second story has been retrofitted to accommodate a single six-light sash. A small vent opening in the upper gable is a later, sheet-metal insertion. The north gable matches the south gable in siding, corner boards, door and window trim, and eave details.

A one-story, shed-roofed addition extends across the west elevation. On this side of the building, the foundation is almost below grade. Originally there were three windows at first and second story level of the main building. On the first story, the center window has been cut down to create a doorway that opens into the shed, fitted with a salvaged glass and wood-panel door. The north and south window openings on the first story are rabbeted for stop bead, but lack any sash and instead are fitted with batten shutters made with circular-sawn boards. The second-story openings presumably had six-over-sash, but have been retrofitted to a single six-light sash. The siding, corner boards, trim and eave treatment match the south elevation; the roof is standing seam metal.

The lean-to addition extends the full, 40-foot length of the original mill building and extends 20 feet to the west. It is framed with circular-sawn material nailed with wire nails. The siding is circular-sawn board-and-batten; the roof is finished with raised-seam metal sheeting. Two large door openings in the south elevation open into a pair of dirt-floor equipment-storage aisles, each 10 feet wide and 40 feet long and separated by a four-foot-high board partition that bisects the interior on a north-south axis. A pair of "Dutch" stable doors on the north gable also open into the storage aisles; three window openings on the west wall are fitted with single, six-light sash, mounted to slide horizontally.

Architectural Description: Structural System

For the sake of clarity, the basic framing system of the entire mill will be described, followed by a more detailed discussion of finishes and functional details at each floor level.

The structural system for the mill consists of a heavy timber frame organized in three bays formed by four principal bents that are set on the east-west axis. The north and south bents form the exterior walls while two intermediate bents transect the interior of the building. At foundation level, heavy wood sills form the perimeter of the building, laid directly on the stone foundation. These sills measure 8" high by 10" wide and at least three of the four are recycled from an earlier building, presumably the previous mill structure. These three, the south, east, and north sills, are hewn rather than machine-sawn and display vacant mortises on the bottom face, visible where the sills pass across the cellar window openings. Four heavy wooden posts are

symmetrically positioned on the east and west sills, forming the end posts for the four structural bents. Massive beams span the 36-foot width of the building from east to west at each floor level.

FIGURE 1-7. *View of the south bay of the cellar, facing west. The chamfered post and massive bearing plate to the right are recycled from the earliest of three construction periods that can be identified in the mill.*

Viewed from the cellar, the framing for the first floor requires just the two intermediate beams to supplement the sills on the north and south foundation walls. These beams are bedded in the east and west foundation walls immediately below the sills; they measure 9½" wide by 13½" deep, display both sash and circular saw marks, and span the 36-foot width of the building without scarf joints. Each beam originally received its primary intermediate support from a single structural post at the center of the span. The post and bearing plate for the south beam survive in place; only the bearing plate survives for the center post of the northerly beam. The surviving post measures 8½" square, with chamfered corners that end in lambs-tongue stops at the upper end but run out at the bottom end, indicating the post has been cut down from a longer piece. The post measures 6'-0" in height and rests on a cast-off iron cog wheel; the top end of the post is tenoned into the bottom face of a 5-foot long bearing plate, also with chamfered edges, which is spiked into the bottom face of the intermediate beam. This post and bearing plate (as well as the matching bearing plate for the missing north post) are clearly earlier than the framing material they carry, and most likely date to the first mill, constructed in the early 1770s.

The joists that support the first floor run north-south in sets of three, butted end-to-end where they meet above the intermediate beams. They are set on 17" to 18½" centers and are notched over one-inch wooden plates laid on top of the foundation walls and at the intermediate beams as well. The joists measure 3" wide by 10½" deep and typically are notched approximately 1½" to create a uniform 9" height above the top face of the foundation plates and the intermediate beams. The flooring for the first story is circular-sawn, 1¼" thick and 6¾" to 7" wide.

FIGURE 1-8. *View from the center bay of the first floor, facing south to the double doors. The quadrants on either side of the entrance aisle were enclosed with horizontal planks and turkey wire sometime prior to 1973 for use as horse stables. Note the diagonal double-planked doors, tightly laid sheathing on the exterior walls, and the finely crafted timber framing.*

The principal structural posts that form the perimeter frame of the building run continuous from the sill up into the attic story, extending 24" above the attic floor level on the east and west walls, where they terminate in wall plates that support the roof framing. These posts measure 9½" square and display parallel saw marks that indicate either a vertical sash saw (long out of fashion by 1904) or, more likely, an industrial-scale band saw, an innovation for cutting large timbers adapted by the lumber milling industry in the late nineteenth century. Each of the two intermediate structural bents includes the same massive, 9½" by 13½" beams at both first- and second-story level, running continuously across the east-west axis of the building and joined to the wall posts with pinned mortise-and-tenon joints. The beams are supported at mid-point by interrupted posts that are tenoned into the beams. On the perimeter walls, the beams that support the ceiling joists are interrupted by the wall posts, and are joined to the posts with pinned mortise-and-tenon joints. The post-and-beam intersections are reinforced with pairs of arch braces that measure 3 5/8" thick by 5¾" deep, cut with a sash or band saw, and assembled with pinned

mortise-and-tenon joints. While the interior sheathing and exterior siding block any comprehensive view of the wall frame at this level, it seems clear that the principal posts are also reinforced with diagonal braces running from post to sill.

FIGURE 1-9. *Floor joists for the second floor run continuously the full 40-foot length of the building from north to south. Note the tongue-and-groove flooring of the second floor and the complete absence of diagonal bridging to provide lateral stability to the joists, a feature that comes into practice in the mid nineteenth century for even the most routine domestic construction.*

The joists that support the second floor (i.e. forming the first floor ceiling) differ from the first floor framing. Instead of running in sets of three from beam to beam, the second floor joists run continuously the full 40-foot span of the building from north to south. They are band-sawn, measure 1 5/8" by 11 3/8" and are set on 18" centers, without benefit of intermediate cross-bridging, a carpentry detail that was standard by the second half of the nineteenth century and would seem particularly appropriate for a building subject to the stresses of an industrial use. Indeed, the use of 40-foot joists is a unique and surprising detail. Joists of such length would have been difficult to transport for more than short distances, indicating they were almost certainly cut by a sawmill on the premises or at the neighboring Kinsley Mill downstream. The flooring for the second story is circular-sawn, 1 1/8" thick with a tongue-and-groove joint, and in a wide range of sizes, from 4½" to 11½" wide, but primarily 5" to 6" in the northern side and 10" to 11½" wide in the southern side.

The perimeter walls of the second story are only partially concealed by sheathing, so the wall framing is more visible. The framing here repeats that observed on the first story, but at this level it is possible to view the wall studs and to measure the horizontal members that run from post to post in the exterior walls. In the north and south walls, the horizontal members correspond to the 9½" by 13" intermediate beams, but carry lighter loads and therefore measure 5½" wide by 11" deep; they are joined to the posts with pinned mortise-and-tenon joints and are reinforced with both arch and tension braces. On these two walls, the horizontal beams are set flush with the outside surface of the principal posts, and intermediate studs and window posts are joined to the bottom face of the wall plate with mortise-and-tenon joints but no pins. At the east and west walls, the equivalent structural members are set in the same plane as the floor joists, and measure 5½" thick and 11½" deep. They are set in 3" from the exterior plane of the structural frame so that wall studs can notch around them and run continuously up an additional 24" to the wall plate in the attic. The standard stud size is 2½" by 5" but the window openings are framed with heavier, 5½" by 5½" posts. The two intermediate beams that span the second story from east to west are supported at the mid-point with 9½" by 9½" posts that are tenoned into the bottom face of each beam and reinforced with a pair of arch braces.

FIGURE 1-10. *The second story viewed from the top of the stairs, facing southwest. The whitewashed ceiling joists and attic flooring are a mix of two periods, both recycled in the period III building. The exterior walls were sheathed on the inside with horizontal boards in the western portion of the second story; framing in the eastern half was left exposed.*

The joists that support the attic floor differ from the first and second floor. Here, the joists are clearly recycled from two earlier structures. The earliest joists, located in the northern of the three bays, are hewn and

pit-sawn, and measure 3" by 8¼". In the center and south bays, the joists are circular-sawn, and measure 2 3/8" to 2½" wide by 7½" to 8" deep. Both types of joists are notched over the wall plates and the intermediate beams to a uniform height of 7½" to 7¾", average 13" to 18" on center, and are butted end to end and toenailed with wire nails. Both types of joists are whitewashed, and this entire floor frame lacks any cross-bridging between the joists. The flooring is also recycled, as demonstrated by ghosts of earlier joist intersections in the whitewashed bottom faces of the floorboards. This flooring is 7/8" thick, random-width (4" to 10"), and joined with tongue-and-groove edges. The earlier, hewn and pit-sawn material is likely to date to the first mill, constructed in the 1770s, while the circular-sawn material should date to a second period of construction that must have occurred sometime after about 1850.

FIGURE 1-11. *The second-story ceiling is framed with joists recycled from an earlier structure and overlaid with recycled flooring as indicated by the ghosting of a different joist system captured by the whitewash. Boxed, square-section chutes delivered the grain from sifters and graders on the third story to machinery and storage bins on the first and second stories. The broad, shallow notches in the side of a joist in the middle of this view are evidence of the boxed elevator conveyors that carried freshly-ground grain to the top of the building to begin the gravity-fed procession through sifters and graders.*

At attic level, the east and west walls extend up 24" above the attic floor, creating a "true" half-story and significantly more usable space than if conventional eave framing and knee walls had been employed. A heavy wall plate (5½" high by 10" wide) is mortised down onto the tenoned tops of the corner and intermediate posts, and the intermediate studs are tenoned into the bottom face of the wall plate. The roof is supported by four queen-post trusses. The queen posts measure 4¾" to 5" by 6" to 6¼" in section, and are tenoned into the four principal beams that extend across the building from east to west as part of the attic floor frame. Each pair of queen posts is joined by a tie beam that is tenoned in 7" on-center below the top of each post, reinforced with mitered and nailed braces.

The four queen-post trusses support a pair of top plates that run the length of the building from north to south, one in each plane of the roof. Pairs of common rafters are mitered and nailed together at the ridge, and are notched to rest on the queen post plates and the wall plates. At the latter point they are carried an additional 18" or so beyond the wall plates to create oversailing eaves. The rafters are circular sawn and measure 2" thick by 6" to 6½" at the base, tapering to perhaps 2" by 5" at the ridge. The queen posts, tie beams, and plates are recycled timber, hewn and pit-sawn. The two center trusses are generally more generously proportioned and retain remnants of whitewash. Most of these timbers display vacant mortise holes from an earlier function, and the second truss from the south was modified to accommodate machinery installed in the loft. Further evidence that this material was reconfigured around 1904 may be found in the braces, which are circular sawn, laid flat rather than on edge, and secured with miter joints nailed with large wire nails rather than tenoned and pinned. The gable ends are framed in with circular-sawn studs that run continuously from the gable wall plate to the rafters, where they are mitered and nailed with wire nails. The roof is sheathed with random-width one-inch scantling, circular-sawn and covered with a standing-seam metal roof.

FIGURE 1-12. *View of the third story, facing northeast. Wooden housings, painted white, served as a protective casing for the canvas conveyor belts that brought freshly-ground grain to the top of the mill. Originally, these would have extended all the way down to the cellar.*

Architectural Description: Functional Aspects

The cellar level of the mill is open, unfinished space with light provided by two window openings in the south wall and three in the east wall. The unfinished foundation walls are 24" to 25" thick and are laid directly on bedrock, which is particularly evident in the western half of the cellar and across the northern bay, where the wheel pit has been cut down approximately 5 feet below the floor level (13 feet below the ceiling joists). The rock strata are sharply uplifted to a nearly vertical plane, intrusive and too uneven to ever have served as a functioning floor or work surface. The remainder of the cellar floor is dirt, sloping gently from southwest to northeast, pitched toward the east end of the wheel pit. A wooden stair rises against the north end of the east wall, spanning the east end of the wheel pit. This stair is constructed of circular-sawn material; the nails are too rusted to identify. The opening at the top of the stair is closed off with a battened hatch door.

While only two intermediate posts were employed to support the framing for the first floor, other posts were added to serve varying purposes related to the drive system of the mill. The precise nature and position of the drive system is not clear, but three posts aligned on the north-south axis about 10½ feet west of the east foundation wall seem to serve as the best indication of where the primary drive mechanism was located (see plan). More clearly defined are 13 pairs of holes in the flooring overhead. These openings measure approximately 6" square, and align straight up through all three floor levels and correspond with the remnants of a canvas-and-metal conveyor belt system that lifted grain from the lower reaches of the building to the top floor, where it could be directed into a series of wooden chutes that used gravity to pass the ground meal and flour down through a succession of sifting and grading machines. Each pair of holes corresponds to one continuous-loop elevator belt, and the pairs align with the ridge of the roof to facilitate a belt drive system powered by the water turbine.

The first floor of the Buckland Mill presumably served as the principal mercantile level of the building, handling the final products after the grain had been ground, sifted, graded, and packaged for shipment and sale. No early partitions survive on the first floor of the mill but the placement of doors and the stair offer some sense of how space was organized, and the sheathed finish of the exterior walls gives some sense of the effort to maintain a clean, finished environment. This sheathing consists of neatly finished horizontal wainscot paneling in 5" widths, but beaded to suggest narrow 2½" wainscot, and applied with wire nails. The principal entrance, wide enough to accommodate barrels and hand carts, is centered on the south wall, facing down Mill Street. Original secondary doors are located in the east bay of the south elevation and in the center of the north wall. A fourth door was cut in at a later date in the center of the west wall, now opening into the later one-story lean-to that extends across the western side of the building.

Based on remnant framing evidence of a lean-to porch across the center and west bays of the south elevation, there was a loading dock on this side of the building, accessible from Mill Street, and the two doors in the south wall opened onto the dock. The larger, center door served as the primary entrance for unloading grain and loading the bags of flour and meal after they had been ground. The smaller door to the east implies there may have been an office located in the southeast quadrant of the first floor. The door in the north wall is located directly above the point where the mill race entered the building, and presumably served as a point of easy access for monitoring or altering the water flow into the cellar. A wide, moderately pitched, companion-way stair rises against the northern portion of the east wall to the second story. This stair is constructed with circular-sawn material and wire nails; 14 treads are necessary to make the 9'-10" rise to the second story. Holes in the flooring overhead have been patched over for the most part, but still serve as an indicator of the conveyor and gravity feed system that moved freshly ground flour to the top of the building, and then brought sifted and graded flour back down to the lower floors.

By 1973, the first floor had been adapted for use as a stable for riding horses. A layer of macadam was laid over the original plank floor in the southern bay of the mill and large stalls were partitioned off in the southeast and southwest quadrants of the first story. These were constructed with rough-sawn 2" by 4" framing lined with horizontal, rough-sawn planks up to 4'-8" above floor level, supplemented with turkey wire. Hay racks and feed boxes are located in one corner of each large stall. A smaller rectangular space also was partitioned off in the northwest corner of the

first story. This is constructed using the same rough-sawn material, but ¼" wire mesh extends all the way to the ceiling, suggesting this space served as a feed room and the wire was intended as rat-proofing. This space measures 7'-1" on the east-west axis by 9'-6" from north to south. It is fitted with a rebuilt, whitewashed, board-and-batten door.

The second story is a single open space, with random-width plank flooring. Horizontal sheathing survives across much of the western half of the second story, while the framing is left exposed on the eastern half. Vacant nail holes indicate some sheathing has been removed from the western side of the space, but there are no nail holes in the eastern half. Patched openings in the floor align with both the elevator-belt system and several dozen chutes that once served to move grain, meal, and flour vertically through the building. An open, companion-way stair rises against the north wall to the third story. It is constructed of circular-sawn material and wire nails, and requires 13 treads (1 3/8" by 9¾") to rise 9'-6" to the attic story.

FIGURE 1-13. *View of the north end of the drive shaft, which extended for most of the length of the third story. In this view, two iron pulleys have broken off, leaving remnants of the spokes. Note the mixture of framing material—hewn and whitewashed timbers from an earlier structure, and circular-sawn, unfinished rafters joined at the ridge with mitered and nailed joints rather than mortise-and-tenon joints.*

While only scattered clues to the functional aspect of the building survive on the cellar through the second story, the attic retains much of the late nineteenth century equipment. A drive shaft extends down the center of the attic supported at each end by 5½" by 5½" posts that are tenoned into base plates that distribute the weight across two floor joists. This shaft is approximately 22 feet long and is fitted with large, iron or steel wheels, usually referred to as pulleys. Ten pulleys survive intact and broken-off spokes provide evidence for four more. Also present is one sprocket gear that presumably accepted a chain drive that transferred the power to the drive shaft. Elevator conveyor belts were fitted to the pulleys, and when the drive system was engaged, the shaft and pulleys turned, engaging the elevator belts. These belts are made of heavy canvas with small metal scoops riveted to the belts. As the belts passed through bins (the latter do not survive), the metal scoops were filled with flour or meal. The freshly ground products were hoisted to the top of the system, and as the belt passed over the apex of the pulley, the flour emptied out and was captured by a wooden chute that directed the flour down into sifting and grading machines in the attic story. Nine of these machines are still largely intact and in place—eight are manufactured models, and one seems to be locally made using manufactured parts fitted to a hand-crafted frame.

Each conveyor belt was contained within a wooden encasement that extends from the attic floor up over the top of the drive shaft, serving to contain the flour and dust generated by the lifting process. There were as many as 13 or 14 of these conveyor elevators, and the housings survive for nine of them. The gravity chutes are also tightly constructed of wood, 5¾" by 6½" in section. The wooden casings for the elevator belts must have extended down through the rest of the loop, both to contain the flour and dust and to prevent industrial accidents; these casings survive only at attic level. The wooden gravity chutes also would have been extensive on the lower floor or floors, and fragments of this system do survive, usually just short sections that remain fixed to the sides of joists at ceiling level. A count of holes in the second floor ceiling identified more than 100, serving some combination of chain drives, elevator belts, and gravity chutes.

All nine machines in the attic are set perpendicular to the drive shaft, and the eight manufactured machines are located on the east side of the loft floor. Three pairs of virtually identical machines are arranged in parallel at the southern end of the drive shaft. These are stenciled with the manufacturer's identity, and include model names and numbers. A typical example of the stenciled manufacturer's markings:

BUILT BY
THE FLOUR & CEREAL
MACHINERY MFG. CO.
Battle Creek, Michigan
USA

THE CHALLENGE
REVOLVING SIFTING BOLTER

No. 0
PATENTED
DEC. 27, 1892
MAY 26. 1896

348

FIGURE 1-14. *Sifting and grading machines survive on the third story, arrayed along the eastern side of the room and fed by grain delivered from below by canvas conveyor belts enclosed in wooden housings and powered by a drive shaft at tie-beam level.*

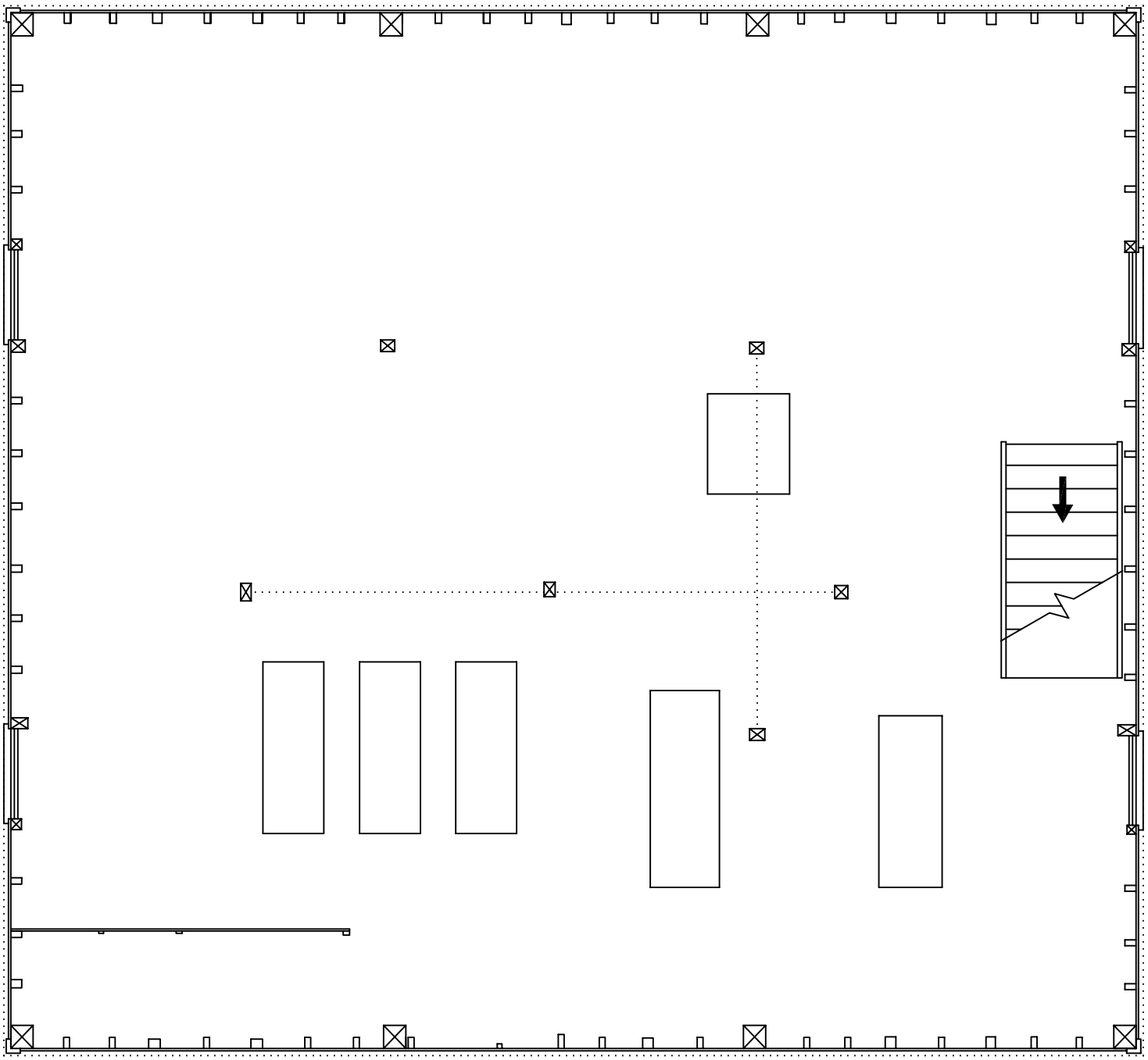
These machines are stacked in three sets of two. The number above the patent date (on the west end of each machine) appears to refer to a model number, as they range from "No. 0" to "No. 3", most likely referring to the fineness of the sifting screens. Both machines in the southern stack are labeled "No. 0", the middle pair are labeled "No. 1" and "No. 2", and the northern pair are labeled "No. 2" and "No. 3." Taken together, the implication is that the two "0" machines generate the finest grade, the middle stack processes a medium grade, and the third pair manufacture the heaviest grade. The final, three-digit number ("348", above) is located on the east end of each machine. These seem to be machine numbers, as each one is unique: 201, 248, 344, 241, 345, and 343.[24]

FIGURE 1-15. *The machines are stenciled with the manufacturer's name and location, as well as with patent dates in the 1890s.*

The seventh and eighth machines, located in the northeastern quadrant of the attic, are larger than the bolters. They are manufactured by the same company, and each is identified as an "AIR CIRCUIT SIEVE SCALPER & GRADER." The ninth machine is the smallest and, as noted, is hand-built. It is located on the west side of the drive shaft in the northwest quadrant of the attic and has been identified by experienced millers as a dryer. Fortuitously, this machine retains more of the drive linkage. A relatively short, continuous-loop chain drive seems to have passed through two holes in the floor, suggesting that a second drive shaft was located at second floor ceiling level. This shaft would have delivered power to the machinery, while the surviving drive shaft in the upper reaches of the attic was primarily dedicated to the grain lifters.

NOTES

[1] This conclusion is based on a search of county historic resources listed in Laurie C. Wieder, ed., *Prince William, A Past to Preserve* (Prince William County Historical Commission, 1998), and confirmed by Prince William County Preservation Planner Robert Bainbridge. Several key mills in the County survive as ruins.
[2] R. Jackson Ratcliffe, *This Was Prince William* (Leesburg, Virginia: Potomac Press, 1978), p. 92.
[3] Walker Taliaferro to Samuel Love, October 22, 1774, Fauquier County Conveyance, folios 46-50.
[4] John and Elizabeth Love and Jane and Josiah Watson to Joseph Dean, December 16, 1804, cited in transaction between John Love and Hugh Smith, executor of Joseph Dean, January 30, 1819, Deed Book 7, folio 124.
[5] Dean's acquisition of Lot No. 1 is documented by the Buckland Tax Assessments for 1818 and 1819. See Prince William County Land Tax Books, 1782-1861; Bull Run Regional Library.
[6] For a history of Samuel Love's Store, later the Miller's Residence, see the separate section of this report for Lot No. 1.
[7] Hugh Smith, executor of Joseph Dean, deceased, to David Ross and Jonathan Ross, July 10, 1819, Deed Book 7, folio 525.
[8] David and Jonathan Ross to William Herbert, July 15, 1819, Deed Book 7, folio 253, and July 20, 1819, Deed Book 7, folio 346.
[9] William Herbert to Thomas Smith, February 2, 1822, Deed Book 8, folio 185. The January sale is referenced in the deed.
[10] Hugh and Elizabeth Smith to Thomas and Mary Smith, November 20, 1829, Deed Book 12, folio 107. The 1801 references to a distillery are found in the Buckland Tax Assessments for Lots 28 and 29.
[11] Bernard Hooe to Joseph D. Smith, September 16, 1845, Deed Book 19, folio 81; Joseph D. Smith to Hugh C. Smith et al, September 16, 1845, Deed Book 19, folio 82.
[12] Joseph D. Smith to Robert H. Hunton, March 26, 1847, Deed Book 19, folio 296.
[13] The broadside is dated September 6, 1869. Special Collections, University of Virginia. Photocopy courtesy of Buckland Preservation Society.
[14] Of numerous documents related to Ross Campbell, see for example R. Taylor Scott for Ross Campbell, deceased, to Eliza Campbell et el, October 12, 1878, Deed Book 31, folio 529.
[15] Elvira S. Williams to Irven R. Wolverton, October 23, 1901, Deed Book 50, folio 126.
[16] I. R. and F. L. Wolverton to Thomas H. Lion, May 21, 1902, Deed Book 50, folio 362.
[17] National Bank of Manassas to John R. Hornbaker, December 26, 1903, Deed Book 54, folio 323.
[18] John R. Hornbaker to I. R. Wolverton, October 9, 1905, Deed Book 54, folio 325; I. R. Wolverton to Thomas H. Lion, October 9, 1905, Deed Book 54, folio 321-322.
[19] I. R. Wolverton to George C. Calvert, April 7, 1906, Deed Book 56, folio 105-106.
[20] Receipts in the possession of Susan Dudley and Brian Mannix, current owners of Buckland Mill.
[21] George C. Calvert to Mitchell Harrison, June 25, 1915, Deed Book 66, folio 440.
[22] Radcliffe, p. 101.
[23] Martha Leitch reported in 1973 "The old wooden dam gave way a number of years ago during a spring thaw, the huge blocks of ice being too much for the rotted timbers." See Leitch, "Buckland, Prince William County, Virginia." *Echoes of History*, Newsletter of the Pioneer America Society vol. 3, no. 6 (November 1973), p. 84.
[24] Identification of the dryer courtesy of Brian Mannix, e-mail communication, August 8, 2005.



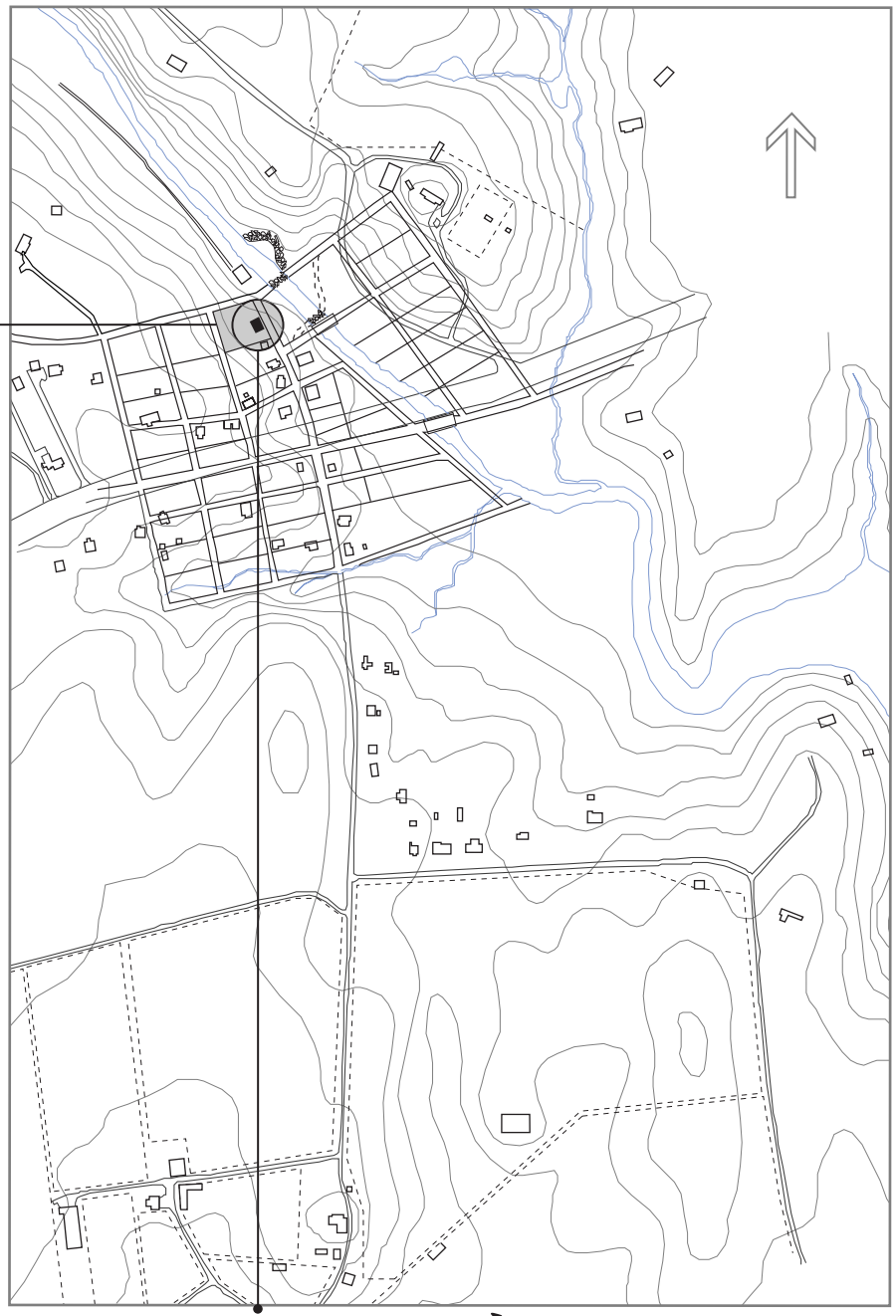
0 1' 5' 10'

NORTH

Title
Buckland Grist Mill Third Floor Plan

Scale
3/16" = 1'- 0"

CHAPTER 2



SAMUEL LOVE'S STORE

THE MILLER'S RESIDENCE

7980 BUCKLAND MILL ROAD

DHR NO. 76-113

by 1798; mid 19th-century, mid 20th-century; 1988-89




FIGURE 2-1. *East elevation. The core of this house is a 1½-story log and frame structure built in the 1790s and initially used by Samuel Love as a store. By the late 1810s it served as the miller's residence for the Buckland Mill.*

SIGNIFICANCE

The building known today as the Buckland Miller's Residence was constructed in the 1790s and by 1798 was occupied by Samuel Love, Jr. as a store. The log walls and hewn joist ceiling of the original structure survive within a much larger house that has grown in at least three subsequent phases. Also significant is a one-room section joined to the north end of the log structure. This portion is of frame rather than log construction and would seem to be an early addition except for the commodious stone cellar made with continuous, unbroken walls that extends under the frame section and most but not all of the log section. While questions remain to be sorted out for this building, it retains clear evidence of a plan that included a heated counting room to the south, an unheated commercial store room in the center, and more refined domestic space in the north room heated by a fireplace on the north wall. The cellar was accessed through a broad bulkhead opening on the east or Mill Street side, a feature typical for commercial buildings; this opening was closed up at a later date in favor of a more conventional bulkhead-style cellar entrance behind the north chimney.

While this lot was always treated as an independent parcel separate from the mill, it was associated with the adjoining mill property by the late 1810s and most likely served as the miller's residence thereafter. Later alterations and additions to the core structure were doubtless driven by a desire to convert the original commercial structure with its limited domestic space into a more commodious and convenient dwelling house. In its early form, the building is highly significant as a rare survival of a late eighteenth-century store of a type favored in rural settings. Urban prototypes typically are oriented with the gable end to the street, with the unheated commercial room fronting on the street and a heated counting room to the rear. In small towns and rural settings, commercial buildings employed a similar interior plan, but with the long walls oriented parallel to the street, as at the Prestwould Store in Mecklenburg County and the Farrish Print Shop in Port Royal.

In its second incarnation as the miller's residence for the Buckland Mill, the building is equally significant as a rare survival of a once-common house type. At the peak of the milling industry, there were several dozen grist mills in Prince William County. Today, the Buckland Mill is the only intact historic mill still fully extant. While attrition may not have been quite so severe for the miller's residences, it is safe to assume they are few in number, and no other county example remains part of a mill complex.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

The Miller's Residence for Buckland Mill is located on Lot No. 1 of the original plan for the town of Buckland. However, the earliest part of this house appears to pre-date the town plan, as the deed by which John Love conveyed the lot to his brother Samuel in October 1798 included reference to the "said Lott No. 1 beginning at the Corner of the Store now occupied by the said Samuel Love Jr. being the corner of Love & Mill Street."[1] The property is similarly described when Samuel Love, Jr. sells the property to William Brooks in September, 1799, reinforcing the continuity of this structure.[2]

Based on tax assessments for the town of Buckland, William Brooks owned the property until 1815 or 1816, when it passed to John Love and, by 1818, to Joseph Dean. Dean purchased the Buckland Mill in 1804, and it seems likely that Samuel Love's store became the miller's residence with Dean's acquisition of Lot No. 1. Following Dean's death in 1818, the lot and mill passed through a series of complicated transactions, and the property descriptions in those deeds routinely began "at the corner of the dwelling house erected thereon, being the corner of Love & Mill streets."[3]

FIGURE 2-2. *View from northwest.*

Architectural Description

Architectural evidence indicates the core of the surviving house was built as a store and dwelling and later evolved to become the residence for the Buckland Mill. The early structure dates to the late eighteenth century, but changes in the latter half of the twentieth century dramatically altered the size and form of the building, and in the process concealed or obscured much of the early structure. The available evidence is complicated and in some respects counter-intuitive, and it would be relatively easy to propose more than one interpretation for the evolutionary history of the structure.

The earliest structure is an unusual combination of log and frame construction that could easily be interpreted as two periods of construction if the two parts did not rest on a continuous stone foundation that forms the cellar. The log section measures 17'-1½" wide by 27'-0" long and is oriented on a north-south axis parallel to Mill Street and Broad Run. This structure is joined at the north end to a frame section that is approximately 16'-6" square. Evidence in the ceiling frame of the south section indicates it was partitioned into two rooms—a large, unheated public store room to the north, and a smaller counting room to the south, heated by an exterior chimney on the south gable. The frame section that extends to the north presumably served as domestic living space, heated by a chimney on the north gable. A stair, possibly originally located in the southwest corner of the north room, served as the access to living chambers in the garret story of the entire structure. A whitewashed stone cellar extends under the building, accessible originally through a broad bulkhead entrance on the east or Mill Street side. Today, access is made using a smaller bulkhead entrance in the western corner of the north gable.

The log structure is almost entirely concealed by exterior siding and interior plaster and drywall, but a section of exterior wall is accessible in the modern back passage, and another section of log wall remains exposed under the staircase. The logs are hewn and measure approximately 7" thick by 8" to 10" high. They are joined at the corners with what appears from the inside to be faceted V-notching. There are traces of whitewash on both the interior and exterior faces of the logs, and nail scars on the exterior indicate that horizontal siding was applied at some point to vertical nailing strips. Photographs taken in 1988 during the most recent renovation indicate the interstices between the logs were chinked with thin slabs of limestone laid on edge at an angle, set in a clay mortar. Early chinking remains under the staircase; elsewhere the chinking has been replaced or concealed behind modern mortar.

FIGURE 2-3. *The log construction of the original structure may be seen where the exterior face of the west elevation is encapsulated in a modern addition.*

Ceiling joists remain exposed for most of the length of the log structure as might be expected for a store; the three northerly joists evidently were replaced when the present stair was added in the northwest corner. The joists measure 3¼" to 4½" wide by 6¾" to 7" deep and are spaced on 23" to 25½" centers. They are made of oak, hewn and pit-sawn, and have had several different finish treatments over time. Originally, it seems likely they were exposed in the store room and whitewashed. Two hand-forged nails from the first period of construction were found in the exposed joists—one a framing nail and the other a T-head. Newspaper was applied to the exposed, whitewashed joists in the 1840s, based on a reference in one fragment to the 28th

Congress. Sometime thereafter a plaster-on-lath ceiling was added, using mature, machine-made nails of a type commonly found from the 1830s to the 1880s. The nail holes from this lathing punch through and post-date the newsprint.[4]

FIGURE 2-4. *First floor interior, facing south. The interior of the original structure was partitioned to form a counting room at the south end, heated by a fireplace, and an unheated commercial store room to the north. The original partition was removed in the nineteenth century when the building was adapted for use as a dwelling.*

Mortises in the fifth joist from the south gable provide evidence of the original interior partition between the store room and the counting room. These mortises extend through the full depth of the joist, an unusual detail, but one suggesting that a comparable partition was positioned directly above in the garret. The spacing of the mortises indicates the location of an interior door east of center in the partition; the rough-opening width was 30"; the other wall studs were located on 24" centers. It is worth noting that the mortises align with the north face of the joist, countering any suggestion that these studs might represent the south gable end of a smaller structure.

Three half-lap mortises on the south edge of the ninth joist from the south are more difficult to interpret. Initially, these notches seemed likely to be evidence for a later modification to the first floor plan of the building. In this scenario, it is assumed that the building was converted entirely to use as a dwelling—the original interior partition was removed and a new partition was added to the north, converting the store and counting room to a stair passage to the north and a heated parlor to the south—both finished with plaster walls and ceilings. However, the three side-lap notches are the only evidence for that partition, and whitewash on the surface of the joist extends across the open lap joints, indicating they were present but not used when the space had an exposed, whitewashed ceiling. An alternative explanation has not been identified, and for now the lap joints remain a puzzling anomaly.

The frame section to the north is 16'-6" square and is heated by a stone chimney centered on the north gable. The chimney is neatly constructed of rubble stone laid with lime-mortar joints partially visible through twentieth century repointing. The only early framing visible at this time is a partial view (from the cellar) of the east sill, evidence for a down brace at the north end of that sill, and the first floor ceiling joists, which are exposed. These joists are hewn and pit-sawn and appear to be poplar rather than the oak found in the south section of the building. They vary considerably in width, from 3¼" to 5" wide (the full depth dimension is not accessible) and are spaced on 23" to 26" centers. Nail scars and a few nails survive from an early plaster ceiling. The nails appear to be early machine-made nails, normally used in the 1810s and later, but available in urban centers as early as 1800. A pattern of larger nail holes in the sides of the joists may be evidence for a later ceiling hung from 1" boards sistered to the sides of the joists to create a level, uniform ceiling. Two nine-over-six windows in the east wall of the north room have beaded frames and 8" by 10" panes set in pinned and through-tenoned sash with 11/16" muntons. These windows appear to be original.

A stone cellar extends from the north gable of the frame section of the house to a point that corresponds approximately to the counting-room partition on the first story of the log section. The cellar is shallow—providing about 5'-3" of headroom—and is uninterrupted by cross walls. Access today is provided by a bulkhead entrance in the northwest corner of the north gable. Seams in the stonework indicate there was an original opening on the east or Mill Street elevation that measured 5'-0" wide. A vertical seam near the north end of the west wall indicates another bulkhead entrance location on the rear wall. The extensive size of this cellar combined with the whitewashed finish of the walls and the broad entrance on the street side suggest that the cellar was used as a storage room for a commercial enterprise.

In the mid-twentieth century, the Miller's Residence was extensively altered. The roof and garret story were removed from the log section and a new second story was added that projected out over first story porches on both the east and west elevations. The east half of the roof for the north section was retained, but the west half was replaced with a shallower pitch that was kicked up and supported by raising the west wall to a true story-and-a-half.[5] Photographs of the house taken in the 1980s show the wing in this altered form, and it is possible to estimate that the original roof was pitched at about 45 degrees, while the altered west roof was pitched at about 30 degrees. The original roof pitch can also be roughly calculated from a fragment of mid-twentieth-century gable framing that survives in the attic of the enlarged house. This framing dates to the 1950s work, and preserves the angle of the earlier roof that it was constructed against. Other changes included construction of a lean-to kitchen addition on the northwest side of the house, reconstruction of the south chimney, and the nearly wholesale replacement of windows, siding, and exterior trim.

FIGURE 2-5. *Interior view, facing north. The principal entrance, in the right-hand wall of this view, opened into an unheated commercial store, with heated counting room to the south (behind the photographer in this view) and a third, heated room to the north, beyond the arched door opening. The north room probably served as a family parlor for the storekeeper, with bedchambers in the upper story.*

In 1986, Susan Dudley and Brian Mannix purchased the property and in September 1988 launched a further renovation of the house. The twentieth-century kitchen lean-to was demolished and replaced with a new kitchen, and the previously altered roof of the north section was removed. This portion of the house was rebuilt and enlarged to conform to the lines of the southern section, providing significantly more space on the second story and at attic level. Siding, window and trim details generally were matched to the previous period of work.[6]

With limited access to the early fabric of this building, it is difficult to draw clear conclusions. Any explanation must address several conflicting elements among the available evidence. First, the juxtaposition of log and frame construction would seem to imply two separate periods of construction, particularly given the contrasting use of oak in the south structure and poplar in the north structure. Second, while nail evidence is limited to a few accessible specimens in each section, the nails in the log structure are consistent with a 1790s date of construction, while the lathing nails for the ceiling in the north room are generally not found in rural contexts until about 1810 or later. The plaster ceiling could be a later feature of the north room, provided this space had an exposed ceiling prior to the 1810s. Third, the stone cellar extends under both sections of the building, but does not extend the full-length of the log structure. Either both the log and frame sections and the cellar are all one period of construction, or the cellar was added when the north section was constructed.

Taking this evidence into consideration, two developmental stories seem possible, and both merit consideration. In the first scenario, the building began in the late eighteenth century as a 17' by 27' log store resting on a low foundation rather than a full cellar. This building was enlarged in the early nineteenth century by the construction of a frame, one-room addition to the north, and a shallow storage cellar was constructed under the new wing and most of the original log building. The size and character of the cellar implies that the building continued to serve a commercial purpose, and the new construction would have increased the domestic living space by adding a family parlor on the first floor and a chamber in the garret. At some later date the building was converted into a dwelling house, and the original room configuration of counting room, store, and family parlor was altered to a more conventional center-passage plan with parlor and dining room flanking the stair passage.

In the second scenario, the entire composition—log building, frame section, and cellar—all date to a single period of construction in the 1790s. In this case, the juxtaposition of log and frame construction is simply an alternative to double-pen construction, the other

alternative for building a log structure that is 43 feet long. In this case, the north room was domestic living space, but evidently with an exposed joist ceiling. In the early nineteenth century, the north room was upgraded with a plaster ceiling, and at some later date the counting room partition was removed, most likely to create a center-passage plan.

The only real difference in these two proposed explanations is timing. The age of the north room may vary by as much as a quarter century, but the significance of the building does not. Here, in altered form, is the late eighteenth-century store owned first by Samuel Love, Jr., and then by William Brooks. By the mid-1810s, it seems likely the structure was modified to serve as a dwelling associated with the Buckland Mill. Twentieth-century alterations have stripped the building down to its basic form, but have not lessened its significance as a key commercial element from the earliest founding of the town of Buckland.

NOTES

[1] John Love to Samuel Love, Jr., October 10, 1798, Prince William County Deed Book B, folio 391-392.

[2] Samuel Love, Jr. to William Brooks, September 2, 1799, Deed Book 1, folio 9-10.

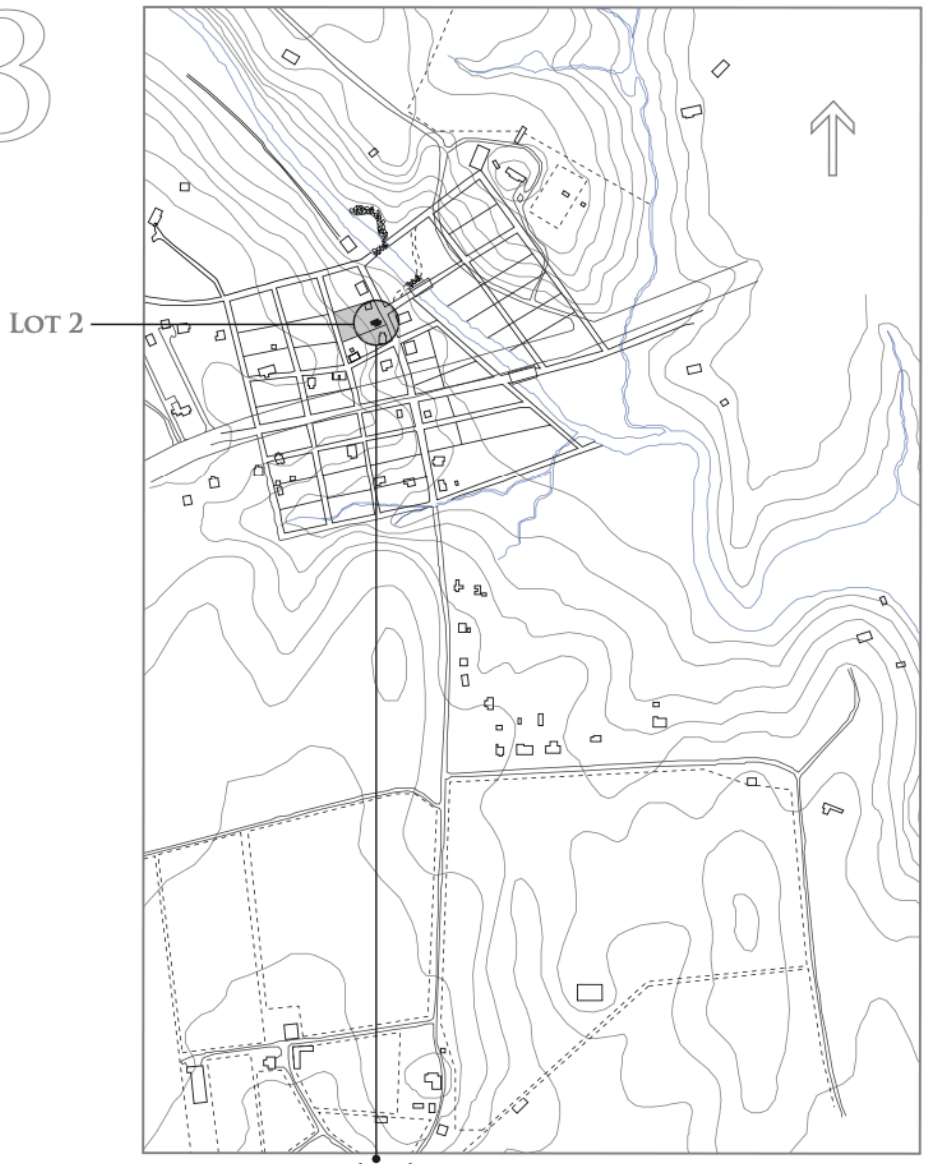
[3] William Brooks is identified as the owner of Lot No. 1 in the 1800, 1801, 1802 and 1803 tax lists; thereafter through 1815 the lists do not include the numbers of up to four lots owned by Brooks. In 1816 and 1817, John Love is assessed for a lot acquired "of Brooks" and in 1818 Joseph Dean is charged for a lot acquired "of Love." Lot valuations are consistent through this chain of ownership, which needs to be verified by further research in the land records. For Dean's acquisition of the Buckland Mill on December 16, 1804, from John and Elizabeth Love and Josiah Watson, see the citation in a later deed dated January 30, 1819, in Deed Book 7, folio 124. For Joseph Dean's will, see the reference in Deed Book 7, folio 525. This same deed is one of several executed in 1819 that make reference to the dwelling house on Lot No. 1.

[4] We are indebted to Brian Mannix for deciphering the newsprint fragments and contributing this unusual dating clue.

[5] A similar alteration to an asymmetrical roof and enlarged garret occurred at Deerlick Cottage, across Mill Street to the south.

[6] This phase of work is documented with dozens of dated photographs taken by Susan Dudley and Brian Mannix over the course of the project.

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE REPORT 3



MOSS HOUSE
BROOKS' TAVERN

8104 BUCKLAND MILL ROAD

DHR NO. 76-120

ca. 1796-1799; ca. 1855; 1976



Figure 3-1. *East elevation. Constructed in the 1790s, the Moss House is the most intact of the earliest buildings in town. Originally constructed with a two-room plan, it served for a time as a tavern and was altered in the 1850s to a center-passage plan dwelling.*

Significance

The Moss House dates to the first decade of development in Buckland and was constructed with a two-room plan form often found in taverns and less frequently in commercial stores. The first period of construction employed hand-forged nails, indicating it should date no later than ca. 1815, and a deed executed in February 1799 describes the property as improved by "a two story frame house with two brick chimneys & a kitchen & necessary house."[1] While early documents refer to the building as a house, it almost certainly was operated by William Brooks as a tavern by the late 1810s, and is referred to in 1855 as the lot "formerly occupied by Mrs. Sarah Brooks as a Tavern."[2]

By the 1850s, the two-room plan had become antiquated, and the building was altered to a center-passage plan that was better suited for use as a residence. As part of this alteration, a Greek revival entry porch was added to the center bay of the front façade, and the principal entrance was shifted from an off-center location (presumably opening into the south room) to the center bay, enhanced with sidelights and transom. The two-story rear wing and a two-story porch on the south portion of the rear elevation may date to this period as well. A renovation in 1976 exposed the original first floor ceiling joists, revealing framing evidence for the original plan.

The Moss House is the most fully preserved building in Buckland from the 1790s. Its role as a tavern on the Warrenton Turnpike is significant, and the remnant evidence of an unusual two-room plan suggests it was intended for commercial as well as residential purposes. The transformation of the building to a more conventional center-passage plan represents changes occurring in Buckland in the 1850s, as the tavern was adapted for residential use.

Historical Summary

The Moss House is located on the west side of Buckland Mill Road to the north of Lee Highway, on Lot No. 2 in the original survey of the town. The lot—set on the west side of what was then known as Mill Street—was sold by John and Elizabeth Love and Josiah Watson to George Britton on August 13, 1796. The property was described in that deed as "all that Tenement lott or parcel of ground whereon he the said Geo. Britton at present has a shop."[3] The price of just £15 seems to be an acknowledgement that Britton was only paying for the lot, and the building (or buildings) must have been erected previously by Britton at his expense. George Britton subdivided Lot No. 2 and on February 20, 1799 Britton and his wife Elizabeth conveyed part of Lot No. 2 to James Taylor. The boundary description traces an L-shaped lot that encompasses the southern half of Lot 2, extending from Mill Street west to Fayette Street, as well as the northwestern quadrant that extended along Fayette Street. The house known today as the Moss House is located on the eastern part of Taylor's L-shaped lot, fronting on Mill Street. The deed describes the land and improvements conveyed to James Taylor as

> a certain lott or parcel of ground situate in the town of Buckland being part of lott number two as described in the plan of said town and that part of said lot on which is erected a two story frame house with two brick chimneys & a kitchen & necessary house thereon. [4]

Tax records for Buckland in 1799 and 1800 register James Taylor as the owner of "House & Lott in Buckland." Taylor does not appear in the 1801 list, but in 1802 he reappears and his house and lot are valued at a yearly rent of $100, among the highest valuations in town. By 1806, Taylor's lot and two-story house had passed to Samuel Hudson, as described in a deed for the northeasterly portion of Lot 2.[5] While deeds for the ensuing series of ownership changes have not been located yet, the tax assessments provide guidance.

Samuel Hudson was taxed for a lot valued at $65 per year in 1810 and 1811, and in 1812 and 1813 John Hampton was taxed at the same rate for a lot received "of Hudson." In 1814 and 1815 John Love was charged the same rate for a lot received "of Hampton" and in 1816 William Brooks was taxed for "1 lot $65 conveyed since last year by Love." William Brooks retained ownership of the property until his death in 1822, and the lot and improvements passed to his widow, Sarah Brooks. The tax assessment for 1820 was a particularly detailed account, and provides the following description:

> William Brooks…Place of Residence… Buckland…Lot…No. 2…Value of Lot $1200… Sum added on account of Building $1000… Yearly Rent $100.[6]

On January 8, 1823, certain heirs of William Brooks conveyed their interest in this property to Sarah Brooks, "on which lot a two-story house is erected."[7] While this deed continues to refer to the building as a house, suggesting a domestic residence, William Brooks is believed to have operated a tavern here, and there can be little doubt that Sarah Brooks did so after his death. The annual valuation had declined from $100 to $65 in the early years of the nineteenth century but rebounded to $100 in 1819 and maintained a fairly constant valuation into the middle of the nineteenth century. In 1850 George and Sarah Brooks Kassick sold two houses and lots to Charles Hunton, who sold the same to John B. and Robert H. Hunton in 1852.[8] When John and Robert Hunton sold Lot 2 in 1855 to Jane Jackson, the deed provided a compelling description. For $800, the Huntons conveyed

> a certain tenement and lot of ground in the town of Buckland in Prince William County, Virginia, formerly occupied by Mrs. Sarah Brooks as a Tavern and a grass lot adjoining the said Tavern Lot.[9]

Jane Jackson owned the property for 13 years, and in 1868 sold the property to Martha A. Moss, whose name remains attached to the house to the present day. By the time of the Jackson sale, the two parts of the lot had been reassembled, for the 1868 deed describes it as containing one acre.

The Moss House is clearly a residential building in its present form, and its decorative details primarily date to the middle of the nineteenth century. A key issue in the field investigation was to determine if the core of the building dates to the first decade of Buckland's development and, if it does, to search for evidence that would shed light on its original use—as a dwelling, a commercial structure, or some combination of the two. The investigation found that the building is constructed with hand-forged nails typical of the period prior to about 1815, and that the interior has been altered in plan and function. The original plan consisted of two nearly equal rooms with the larger room to the south, a plan form often found in taverns and, less frequently in commercial stores. Based on the combination of documentary and technological evidence, then, it is apparent that the main block of this building was erected by George and Elizabeth Britton between August 1796 and February 1799.

The two-room layout was altered in the mid-nineteenth century to a center-passage plan with new trim and finishes. This extensive renovation marked a change from a building that was intended for commercial use, probably with family dwelling space on the second story, to one that was intended solely as a private residence. The ornamental details are typical of the transition from Greek Revival to Italianate in the 1850s, and the building materials include circular-sawn scantling unlikely to be seen in this region before about 1850. A careful evaluation of Alfred Waud's panorama drawing of Buckland indicates that the Greek Revival porch was present by October 1863 when the drawing was executed. Thus, the transformation of this building to a center-passage dwelling almost certainly took place during the 1850s, a decade marked by significant building and economic activity in Buckland. A review of the ownership history for the property in the 1850s, summarized above, suggests that Jane Jackson is the most likely owner to have undertaken this transformation, sometime shortly after her acquisition in February 1855.[10]

Two architectural drawings document a major construction project undertaken in 1976. Dated May 27, 1976, the drawings are titled "Remodeling and Repairs for the Margaret E. M. Crosby Residence, Buckland, Virginia by Hanback Construction." A section titled "Description of Work" provides a brief summary of the project:

> …General remodeling & repair; replace

damaged walls & ceilings; remodel kitchen; enclose screened porch area; enlarge 1 bedroom to make room for dressing room and bath; repair damaged chimneys.

The plan drawings are further annotated in red. The two first floor rooms are marked "new ceiling; expose beams." The north (dining) room is to receive "new sheetrock walls; Insulate outside walls; living room & hall same." The plan drawing for the second floor delineates the alterations necessary to create the new dressing room and bath, as well as an arched opening between the north bedchamber and the rear wing.[11]

FIGURE 3-2. *View from the northwest. The two-story rear wing probably dates to the 1850s reorganization of the house into a center-passage plan. The lower portion of the chimney at the left or north end dates to the 1790s, extended in the 1820s, and with a cap rebuilt in the 1970s. The south chimney was entirely built in the 1970s.*

Architectural Description: Exterior

The Moss House is sited on rising ground that overlooks Mill Street and Broad Run. The house is rectangular in form, 18' deep by 34' in length, oriented on the north-south axis, parallel to Broad Run. It is of frame construction, one room deep and two stories high on a full cellar, with a single chimney on either end of the gable roof. A gable-roofed entrance porch with Greek Revival details is centered on the east elevation and a two-story frame addition, renovated in 1976, extends from the northern portion of the rear or west elevation. The front entrance porch and a two-story porch on the southern part of the rear elevation have been enclosed to create additional living space.

FIGURE 3-3. *Detail of entrance porch. The entry porch was added in the 1850s when the interior plan was altered from two rooms to a center passage. In the 1970s the porch was enclosed and the Greek Revival door and sidelights were shifted from the main façade of the house to the front of the porch.*

The principal elevation faces east and is three bays wide. The original fenestration plan is not known, but the principal door was probably offset to left of center, opening into the larger, south room. As reconfigured in the 1850s, the entrance was shifted to the center of the façade and expanded to include a single-panel door framed with three-light sidelights and four-light transom, protected by a gable-roof entrance porch. The porch is constructed with hewn and pit-sawn framing, which was passing out of use in Buckland by the 1850s, and the porch details are typical of the late Greek Revival period. In the twentieth century (probably in 1976), this entrance porch was enclosed and the 1850s door composition was shifted forward to the front of the porch, leaving a broad opening between the porch and the interior passage. The extant six-panel door is fitted with modern hinges and lock, but scars provide evidence of an earlier lock. The entire door composition is set within a beaded frame; further ornamentation includes single panels with Italianate panel molds below the sidelights, and scrolled brackets applied to the pilasters that separate the door from the sidelights.

Six-over-six windows are located in the north and south bays of the first story and in all three bays on the second story; there are no dormer windows. The windows are set in narrow 1¾" frames struck with a ½" bead along the inner edge, above 2½" wood sills. All but the north window on the first story are fitted with louvered exterior shutters. These are constructed

with pinned, through-tenon joints and are hung on two-knuckle butt hinges, features that are consistent with the 1850s renovation project, although these shutters may have been repaired or skillfully reproduced sometime in the intervening century-and-a-half.

The foundation is constructed of rubble stone and the façade is covered with plain, horizontal lap siding with 5" exposure and a ½" reveal, nailed with machine-made nails, indicating the siding dates to the 1850s renovation. This conclusion is reinforced by the intersection with the entrance porch. Here the Greek posts are coped to fit to the siding, indicating the siding was in place when the porch was constructed. This plain siding replaced first-period beaded weatherboards, as demonstrated by a piece of original siding that remains in place at the top of the rear façade, retained because the cornice is applied against it. It is in sound condition today because of protection offered by the two-story porch. The fascia, soffit and bed mold survive on the front elevation; the crown mold is missing everywhere. Based on the more accessible section of cornice on the rear elevation, the cornice was typical of the late eighteenth century. The bed mold consists of a quarter-round ovolo above a matched cove molding. The roof is modern standing-seam metal. The first seven courses of siding were replaced in the last decade of the twentieth century as part of a project to repair termite damage to the sill and the base of the wall framing.

On the south gable elevation, fenestration consists of a single six-over-six window in the east bay of the first story, a twentieth-century 12-light casement window in the west bay of the second story, and a pair of small, four-light windows in the upper gable. The present brick chimney centered on the south gable was rebuilt from the ground up in 1976. The plain, lapped siding matches the front façade and dates to the 1850s period, except for the lower courses to the east of the chimney, which were replaced in the 1990s. The first-story window frame, in general, matches the east windows, but with a 1 1/8" profile and 3/8" bead. Originally, the gable eaves would have been trimmed with beaded and tapered rakeboards, but in the 1850s the eaves were reconfigured to oversail the gable siding by about 10", with scroll-sawn barge boards attached to plain brackets. Only part of this feature survives on the south gable.

The rear elevation of the main house is concealed by a later, two-story, lean-to addition across the center and north bays, and a two-story porch across the south bay that was enclosed in 1976. Mid-nineteenth century siding survives in good condition within the enclosed second-story porch, as well as portions of the original section of cornice described previously.

On the north elevation, an early exterior chimney is centered on the gable. It is of brick construction on a stone foundation and dates to two periods. The stone foundation and the first 23 courses are original to the 1790s, while the upper shaft is later, probably dating to the 1820s or later. The original, lower shaft is laid in 3:1 and 4:1 bond with hand-made bricks and undercut joints, while the upper shaft is laid in 7:1 bond with a smaller, more finely finished brick and neater joints. The chimney steps in at the top of the stone foundation, then rises as a straight shaft to the attic floor level, where it is shouldered in with a series of corbel courses. The upper shaft was rebuilt in 1976. The two early periods of brickwork are coated with red limewash.

Two ghost outlines in the face of the chimney provide evidence of missing architectural features. The first is a diagonal tar line that traces the pitched roof of a one-and-one-half-story wing. The second is a whitewash outline suggesting an interior wall surface from the now demolished wing. Brick infill delineates the location of two stove flues that were cut through the north face of the chimney, one at first-story level, and one that would have heated the loft of the wing. The Waud drawing of 1863 indicates a small one-story structure projecting from the northeast corner of this gable, but that structure is too small to explain the evidence on the chimney. It seems likely that the missing wing post-dates the Waud drawing and was demolished sometime in the twentieth century.

The fenestration on this elevation has changed over time. At present, there are six-over-six windows on both sides of the chimney at first-story level, one 12-light, twentieth-century casement in the east bay of the second story, and a pair of small, four-light windows in the upper gable. The foundation and siding match the front façade, and the eaves retain the plain brackets that served as anchors for the scrolled barge boards, now missing on this gable. There is no seam between the siding of the main house and the rear wing, suggesting that the wing may date to the 1850s period of construction.

Architectural Description: Interior

The present floor plan consists of a central stair passage flanked by a single room on each side—an arrangement that dates to a major renovation to the building in the 1850s. The door at the rear or west end of the passage opens into the rear addition (now a kitchen), and the parlor to the south has been enlarged by removing the rear wall and extending that room into what was previously the first story of a two-story porch. This alteration was undertaken in 1976, and at that time the plaster ceilings throughout the first story were also removed, leaving the hewn and pit-sawn joists and some additional framing details visible. The exposed, original framing reveals several key features. First, the corner posts were hewn to an L-section so they would not protrude in the corners of the rooms. Second, the ceiling framing includes a large girt (approximately 9" deep by 8¼" wide) that runs down the center of the stair passage, joined at each end to T-section wall posts with pinned mortise-and-tenon joints. These two wall posts were cut off immediately below the tenon joints as part of the 1850s alterations, to make way for new front and rear doors at either end of the passage.

Mortises in the bottom face of the girt provide clear evidence of an original interior partition, and a pair of larger mortises with trunnel holes define the location of the original interior door between the two rooms. This evidence for the missing partition makes it possible to reconstruct the original floor plan, which consisted of a larger room to the south that measured 17'-2" from north to south by 17'-5" deep and a slightly smaller room to the north that measured 15'-2" by 17'-5". When the center partition was removed in the 1850s, two new partitions were constructed to create a central stair passage 7'-4½" wide flanked by a 13'-3" by 17'-5" parlor to the south and an 11'-5" by 17'-5" dining room to the north.

The stair rises against the south wall of the passage in a straight run to the second story. It is an open-string stair with delicate turned balusters, a bold, turned newel post and oval handrail. The stair is framed with sash-sawn stringers (including one in the center) and circular-sawn studs, assembled with mature, machine-made nails typical of the period 1830s to 1880s. The stair, then is part of the 1850s remodeling phase, and replaces an original stair that most likely was located in the northwest corner of the south room, rising against the west wall to turn and continue against the north wall to the second story.

Figure 3-4. *Front passage, facing west. In the 1850s, the interior partition was removed and the two-room plan was altered to a center passage with flanking parlor and dining room. The substantial ceiling joist visible to the right of the staircase served as a girt for the original partition. One mortise for the partition is visible in that beam and the base plate for the ceiling fixture conceals another. The present stair dates entirely to the 1850s, as suggested by the richly turned newel post and mid-century technological evidence.*

The door to the cellar stair and the door at the rear or west end of the passage are original to the 1850s period of alterations. The west door is four-panel, with lightly raised panels trimmed with a quirked, Grecian ovolo panel-mold that terminates with a bevel, a feature more often found with Italianate moldings and in this case, reinforcing the evidence for an 1850s date. The door is hung on a pair of 3½" three-knuckle, cast-iron butt hinges and is fitted with a manufactured iron rim lock with an illegible maker's stamp and modern brass

knobs. The door to the cellar stair has four panels and is smaller, measuring just 2'-0¼" wide by 5'-3" high, with plain, flat panels and no panel molds. This door is hung on 3" two-knuckle, cast-iron butt hinges and retains the ghost from a 4" by 6" rim lock. Flooring in the passage is narrow, modern tongue-and-groove oak that runs continuously into the rear addition.

FIGURE 3-5. *Detail of framing, ceiling of passage. The original structure was constructed with L-section corner posts and T-section intermediate posts framing the junction of the interior partition with the outside walls. When the two-room plan was altered to a center-passage plan in the 1850s, the original interior partition was removed and the T-section posts were chopped out to make way for the new front and rear doors. In this view, the truncated upper end of the T-section post in the west wall is evident above the rear door, still pinned to the girt that served to frame the interior partition.*

The north room is heated by a fireplace centered on the north wall. The fireplace and hearth have been rebuilt in the twentieth century but the mantel dates to the 1840s or 1850s, based on the combination of Greek and Gothic Revival details in the symmetrical trim that serves as pilasters flanking the opening, and as side blocks at both ends of the plain frieze. Symmetrical trim also serves as a band across the base of the frieze and as a cap molding for the pilasters. The molded shelf is supported by a complex bed mold with Greek details; both the shelf and the bed mold break forward above the pilasters and side blocks.

FIGURE 3-6. *South parlor, facing west. In the original, two-room plan, the south room extended several feet farther to the north or right, and the original stair was probably located in the back right corner of this, the larger of the two rooms. In the 1850s, this room was reduced in size to accommodate the new, center stair passage. In 1976 the rear wall was removed and the room was expanded into the enclosed first story of a two-story rear porch.*

Other early trim in this room includes a beaded baseboard, architrave trim for the east window, and part of the architrave trim on both the door to the passage and the door to the kitchen. The architraves consist of a beaded fascia with cyma reversa backbands that terminate in a bevel, a profile that comes into fashion in the 1850s. On the passage door, two pieces of backband are twentieth-century reproduction trim, while on the kitchen door the backband is early and the beaded fascia is reproduction. As noted previously, the ceiling joists have been exposed since 1976; nail evidence survives for the plaster ceiling that was removed. The oak tongue-and-groove flooring and the present plaster also date to 1976.

FIGURE 3-7. *Dining Room, facing northeast. This room was also reduced in size in the 1850s to accommodate the new center stair passage. Original ceiling joists were exposed as part of the 1976 renovation project.*

The south room was enlarged in 1976 by removing the original west exterior wall and expanding into the first story of the rear porch. The plate that extends across the top of the first story on the west wall was left intact, and mortises in the bottom face of the plate delineate the missing wall framing. Two pinned joints indicate the location of a window in the center, corresponding to the window on the east wall. This wall plate measures 3¾" wide by 7" deep; the ceiling joists are 3" to 4½" wide and 9" deep. A fireplace on the south gable wall has been rebuilt and fitted with a twentieth-century pine mantel; the narrow oak flooring dates to 1976.

On the second story, no visible evidence could be found to indicate the original plan, but it seems likely that the two-room configuration of the first story was repeated. In the 1850s, the original second-story partition and the stair were demolished, and two new partitions were built to create a compact center passage (5'-10½" wide) to accommodate a new, straight-run stair that continued on to the garret as well. Doors at the west end of the second-story passage open into bed chambers to north and south. The south chamber is slightly larger, measuring 13'-6" from north to south by 17'-3" deep, while the north chamber is 12'-8" by 17'-3". Flooring in both rooms appears to date to period I, while the beaded baseboard and architrave trim dates to the 1850s. The flooring is pine, 4¾" to 6" wide with tongue-and-groove joints, face-nailed with hand-forged T-head nails. Floor seams in the northeast corner of the north chamber and the southeast corner of the south chamber are original features of the floor construction rather than evidence for an earlier stair, as demonstrated by the matching floor material and nails. The mantels in the two chambers are a matched pair of a type generally found in the early twentieth century.

In 1976, the second-story plan was modified once again. The east end of the passage was partitioned to create a small closet serving the south bedchamber, and the lower portion of the garret stair was reconfigured into a winder. In the north bedchamber, a large, arched opening was created in the center of the west wall, and the adjoining space in the west wing was fitted out as a dressing room and master bathroom. A second, general-purpose bathroom is located in the southern part of the west wing, accessible from the stair passage.

Two small bedchambers in the garret story flank the stair. These spaces are finished with modern materials, but a careful examination reveals evidence of original fabric. A small opening in the closet of the north chamber provides access behind the present knee wall. From here, it is possible to examine original roof and gable framing, and to determine that the garret story served as finished space from the start. The roof is of common-rafter construction, set at a pitch of 42.5 degrees. The rafters are hewn and pit-sawn; they measure 2¾" wide by 3½" deep near the eaves, and are set on 24" centers. The shingle nailers are 1" deep by 2 1/8" to 2¾" wide, with 3" to 3½" gaps. Hand-forged nails are evident where the gable studs are nailed to the gable rafters, and spade-point, hand-forged shingle nails protrude from the inner face of the shingle nailers, indicating the frame of the house is intact to the 1790s period of construction. Studs for an original knee wall survive in the center and south end of this crawl space. This knee wall was closer to the eaves than the modern wall, and the studs are secured with hand-forged nails, indicating that there were finished rooms in the garret from the earliest period. Nail holes in the lower face of the rafters immediately above the kneewall studs are spaced 3" to 4" apart, indicating the garret rooms were finished with board sheathing rather than plaster and lath.

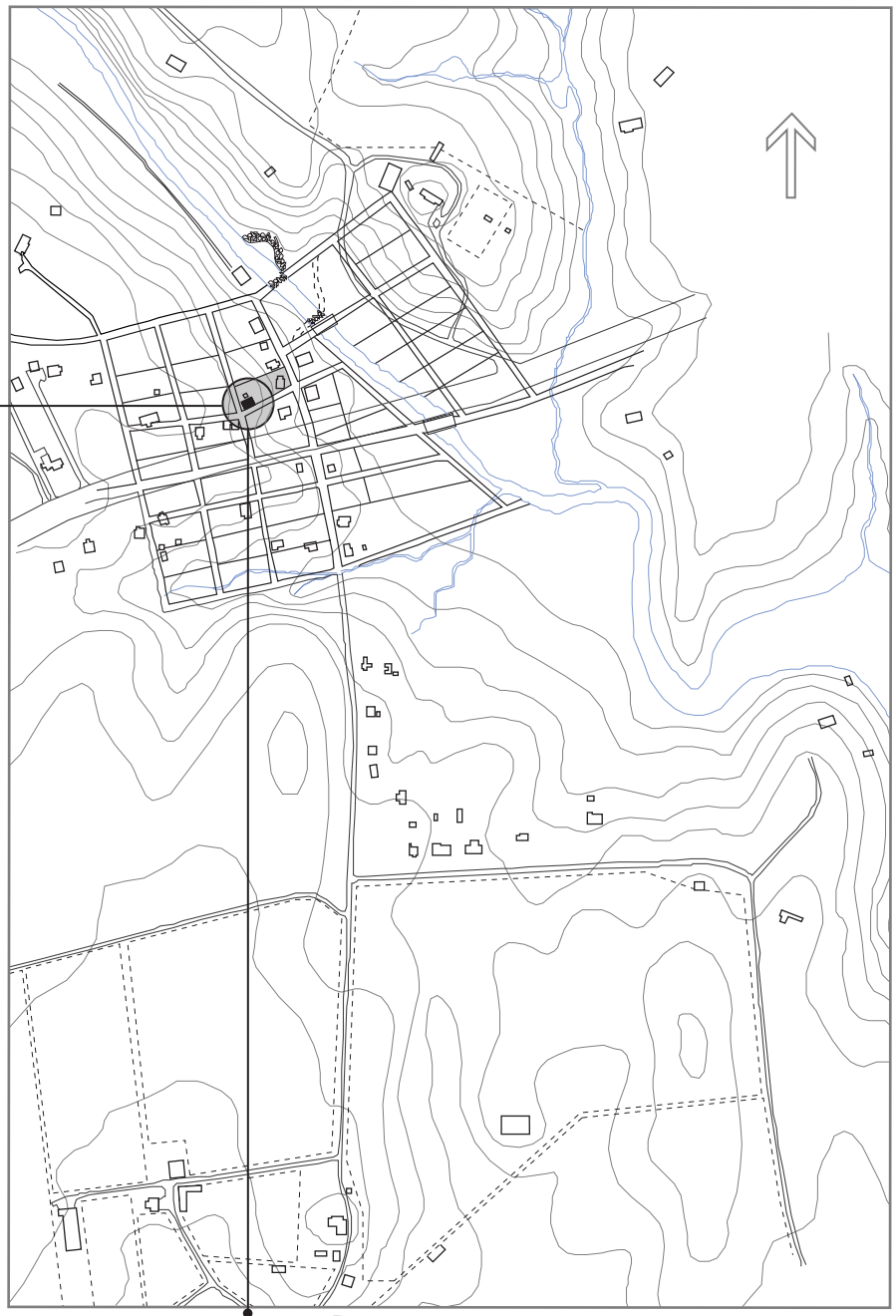
FIGURE 3-9. *Cellar ceiling details. The original ceiling joists are hewn and pit sawn and the flooring is gauged and undercut. The stone foundation walls, joists, and the bottom face of the floor are whitewashed, an indication the cellar was used for storage, accessible through a bulkhead entrance near the north end of the rear or west wall.*

A full cellar extends most of the length of the original building, but stops about 5'-6" short of the north wall. Here, the transition from full-depth cellar to crawl space is accomplished with a stone retaining wall that is similar in materials and workmanship to the adjacent foundation. An original bulkhead cellar entrance is located in the north bay of the west or rear wall; it is 3'-4" wide and the sill is undercut to increase the headroom. Framing material is hewn and pit-sawn and original to the first period of construction. The sill on the west wall measures 8" deep by 7¼" wide; the floor joists are 3½" to 3¾" wide by 8" to 8¾" deep. A heavy girt corresponds to the original first-floor interior partition. This timber measures 7½" wide by 8½" deep. A similar girt is located at the south end of the cellar, positioned immediately in front of the south foundation wall. This girt measures 7" wide by 8½" deep. The foundation corbels out and butts against the south face of this girt, forming a support for the first-story fireplace hearth. The original first-story flooring is intact, concealed from above by modern flooring. The early flooring is 1 1/8" thick by 5" to 6½" wide, and is gauged and undercut with tongue-and-groove joints. The underside of the flooring and the floor framing is coated with whitewash everywhere except in the crawl space at the north end of the cellar. The newel post for the present staircase is tenoned through the flooring and wedged in place. There is no evidence of an original interior cellar stair, pre-dating the present, mid-nineteenth stair.

NOTES

[1] See Britton to Taylor, below.
[2] See Hunton and Hunton to Jackson, below.
[3] John and Elizabeth Love and Josiah Watson to George Britton, August 13, 1796, Prince William County Deed Book Z, folio 58-59.
[4] George and Elizabeth Britton to James Taylor, February 20, 1799, Deed Book Z, folio 466.
[5] George and Elizabeth Britton to James Hunton, June 3, 1806, Deed Book 3, folio 231-232.
[6] Buckland Tax Assessments for 1799-1877, transcribed by David Blake for Buckland Preservation Society.
[7] Heirs of William Brooks to Sarah Brooks, January 8, 1823, Deed Book 9, folio 140.
[8] George and Sarah Brooks Kassick to Charles Hunton, March 9, 1850, Deed Book 21, folio 8; Charles and Hannah Hunton to John B. and Robert H. Hunton, January 1, 1852, Deed Book 22, folio 38.
[9] John B. and Ann Eliza Hunton and Robert H. Hunton to Jane Jackson, February 21, 1855, Deed Book 23, folio 241.
[10] The rapid turn-over among the Huntons, a prominent mercantile family with established homes nearby is an unlikely time for such a purposeful transformation from tavern to dwelling.
[11] These drawings are framed and displayed in the house, which is now owned by Leslie and Edward Nittiskie.

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE REPORT 4



RICHARD GILL HOUSE

ODESCALCKI-GRAHAM HOUSE

16206 LEE HIGHWAY

DHR NO. 76-185

by 1796; ca. 1870; ca. 1890s-1909; ca. 1970s; ca. 1997

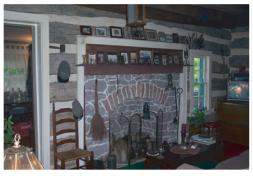



FIGURE 4-1. *South elevation. The core of this house is a one-story log structure constructed by blacksmith Richard Gill by 1796. Gill's house forms the first story of the right-hand section in this view. The house was raised to two stories shortly after the Civil War and expanded by the two-story frame addition to the left around 1900.*

Significance

The original portion of this house was constructed by Richard Gill sometime prior to August 1796; by November 1797 he had constructed a blacksmith shop in the southeast corner of the lot, fronting on Mill Street. Gill's log dwelling house is representative of the first generation of buildings constructed in Buckland, in this case pre-dating the legislative recognition of the town by at least two years. In both construction material and date of construction, the Gill House closely parallels the Samuel Love Store, and while both of these early buildings were altered, much of the Gill House remains visible today. As a blacksmith, Richard Gill was an important member of Buckland's artisan community, and it is possible that some of his work survives in early nineteenth century buildings elsewhere in the village.

The property remained in Richard Gill's possession from 1796 until his death ca. 1850 or 1851; it was sold by his heirs in 1855. The original 1½ story house was raised to two stories after the Civil War, probably during the ownership of John B. Hunton, and was expanded by a two-story addition to the west around the turn of the twentieth century by "Bun" Graham. This latter addition is useful for tracking the use of hewn pole construction in Buckland. There are at least six examples of this practice among the 13 structures in town that pre-date 1900—the earliest known use is in the Buckland Church of 1856, and this addition to the Gill House is the last recorded instance.

Historical Summary

The Richard Gill House stands on the southwest corner of Lot No. 3 in the original town plan of Buckland, oriented to face Elizabeth Street to the south and Fayette Street to the west. The house consists of three parts. The earliest section is a 1½ story log house oriented on an east-west axis, constructed by Richard Gill, a blacksmith. Gill purchased the lot for £15 from John and Elizabeth Love and Josiah Watson on August 13, 1796. The deed describes the property as "all that Tenement Lott and parcel of Ground whereon the said Richard Gill at present dwells and is part of a tract called Buckland…which Lott is known as No. 3."[1] By November, 1797, Gill had constructed a blacksmith's shop on the southeast corner of this lot, as indicated by a property description for Lot No. 5.[2] Richard Gill's house and shop both precede the formal recognition of Buckland by the Virginia legislature in 1798 and were among the improvements cited by John Love in his petition for establishment of the town. Both buildings also seem to predate the orderly lot lines laid out in 1797 and most likely served as benchmarks for organizing the new town plan.

Richard Gill retained ownership of this house and lot for the rest of his life. Tax assessment records for Buckland show that by 1803 he also had acquired Lot No. 12, located immediately to the west across Fayette Street, but evidently he never improved that property with taxable structures.[3] Tax listings indicate that his place of residence changed from Buckland in 1816 to Culpeper County in 1817, and reverted to Buckland in 1823. The 1851 assessment indicates that Gill was deceased, and on November 1, 1855, Charles A. Ware received a power of attorney from the heirs of Richard Gill "to Sell a house and two lots in the Town of Buckland…No. three and Twelve." John B. Hunton paid $205 for the property, and was taxed for the same in 1860, 1861, and 1865.[4]

Richard Gill's log house was raised to two stories sometime after about 1850, based on the circular-sawn rafters and mitered ridge joint in the period II roof. The Gill House is visible in Alfred Waud's 1863 panoramic drawing of Buckland, and it would appear to be in its 1½ story form at that point. If this interpretation is correct, then the second story must have been added in the decade or so after the Civil War, at a time when improvements were also undertaken on the Isaac Meeks

House (Lot 8) and the Dr. Brown House (Lot 30).

The Gill House was enlarged again sometime after about 1885 by the construction of a two-story addition across the west gable end. The latter structure sits at a right angle to the original house, with a pitched gable roof oriented on the north-south axis. This addition is constructed with wire nails, which begin to replace traditional machine-made nails in the 1880s and are the dominate nail by the mid 1890s. Mark Joyner, the current resident, notes that a local history states that the period III addition was constructed by "Bun" Graham in the 1890s.[5] This is consistent with the architectural evidence, but it is worth noting that an inscription scratched into the chimney at second-story level offers two dates, "1804" and "1909". While several interpretations are possible, the dates seem to be inscribed at the same time, and most likely were executed in 1909 with the intention of recording the date of one phase of work just completed and to memorialize the presumed date of the original house. If this supposition is correct, then the period III addition may date as late as 1909.[6]

A fourth period of work dates to the 1970s, when a one-story, lean-to addition was constructed on the north side of the original house. Scratched initials and the date "74" in the flagstone floor of the south porch presumably indicate additional work done at that time. The house was purchased by Thoms J. Ashe, Jr. in the late twentieth century and was renovated by him ca. 1997.[7]

Architectural Description: Exterior

The period I house measures 19'-8" from north to south and 21'-3¼" from east to west. In its original form, it was 1½ stories high, of log construction on a stone foundation, with a stone and brick chimney centered on the west end of a pitched gable roof. The south elevation serves as the principal façade, with a door in the center bay flanked by single six-over-six windows to either side. The door opening measures 2'-9" wide by 6'-4" high, fitted with a twentieth-century glass-and-panel door. Mark Joyner reports that the owner prior to Tom Ashe told him that he cut this door in, but this opening appears to be an original feature, so perhaps he was responsible for installing the present door rather than the entire opening. The window openings measure 2'-4½" wide by 3'-10½" high, framed with plain, 3½" trim and a 2" deep wood sill; the six-over-six sash have 8" by 10" panes. The windows are fitted with louvered

FIGURE 4-2. *A door at the west end of the porch provided direct access to the turn-of-the-twentieth-century west wing. The flagstone paving dates to 1974.*

On the second story, a door in the center bay opens onto the upper level of the two-story porch, and is flanked by a single six-over-six window on each side. The south elevation is sheathed with plain, lap siding with a thin, ½" reveal and 4 1/8" to 5¼" exposure, applied with machine-made nails. The cornerboards are 6¼" wide and are plain, without a bead.

The porch required extensive repairs by Tom Ashe, but retains exposed, scrolled rafter ends resting on a chamfered horizontal plate (probably salvaged from another location), supported by boxed posts. The flagstone paving at ground level includes an inscription scratched into the mortar: "VW 74."

The roof of the house and porch is standing-seam metal. The early chimney at the west end of the

ridge is brick with a corbelled cap. A second, smaller chimney is located at the east end of the ridge, but this stove chimney has been demolished below attic level, and now extends just a few courses above the roof and is capped off.

FIGURE 4-3. *View from southwest. The west wing in the foreground was added around 1900 by "Bun" Graham, using a late form of hewn pole construction widely used in Buckland from the 1850s to about 1900. The stucco was added in the latter part of the twentieth century.*

On the east gable elevation, a single six-over-six window is centered at first- and second-story level, and a pair of louvered shutters are fixed to the siding in the upper gable, to suggest an attic window. The first- and second-story windows conflict with the location of the brick stove chimney that probably dates to period II. These windows must have been added when the stove chimney was demolished. Seams in the siding below the first story window indicate this may be altered from a door opening, and the sash clearly dates to the latter half of the twentieth century. A small opening at the north end of the fieldstone foundation provides access to a low crawl space under the period I house. The gable siding matches the south elevation, but the north cornerboard is missing, removed when the north side of the house was rendered with stucco. The gable eaves oversail by about 12" and are boxed in. Mark Joyner states that the eaves were further embellished with scalloped barge boards, which were removed in 1997. Similar barge boards were added to the Buckland Tavern in the post-bellum period, and were removed by Tom Ashe, ca. 1975.

The first story of the north elevation is now concealed by the one-story addition constructed in the 1970s. An original door in the center bay of the first story now opens from the main house into that addition, and it is curious that this was evidently the only first-story opening, suggesting that there may have been an original outshut on this side of the house. At second-story level, there are two six-over-six windows, widely spaced in the east and west bays. This elevation was covered with exterior stucco applied to wire lath, a modification that pre-dates the construction of the one-story lean-to.

Most of the west gable wall of the period I house has been covered by the period II wing. The large, stone and brick chimney survives on this wall, but the stack was raised when the house was enlarged from one to two stories. A door in the south bay at first story level is said to be the original front door to the house, and now serves as the access between the original house and the period III wing. This door opening does appear to be an early feature and thus predates the wing, but it is highly unlikely that this would have served as the principal door. A four-over-four window with 8" by 10" panes in the north bay of the first story provides light to the northern side of the parlor. The exposed north bay of this elevation has been stuccoed as well; the gable eave oversails and is boxed in.

FIGURE 4-4. *North elevation from the northwest. The original one-story log house is at left, concealed behind a 1970s lean-to addition. The outbuilding in the left foreground is a board-and-batten structure of about 1900 constructed over a root cellar or ice-house pit.*

The period III west wing measures 14'-4" on the east-west axis and 19'-4" from north to south. It is set at a right angle to the original house and is offset 5'-3" to the south so that it aligns with the outer edge of the porch. At first story, a door opens in the east wall

of the wing directly onto the porch. This opening is 2'-6" wide by 6'-6" high, and is trimmed with a plain 4" architrave and fitted with a five-panel door with stamped metal knob and plate. There is no comparable access to the upper level of the porch.

The south gable elevation of the wing includes a single six-over-six window in the west bay of the first story, a pair of six-over-six windows in the second story, and a small, four-light window in the upper gable. The first floor window opening measures 2'-4½" wide by 4'-0" high, with a 2" wood sill and plain 3½" trim; the glass panes are 8" by 10". The siding is similar to that on the main house, but with a 5/8" reveal and 4½" to 5" exposure, nailed with wire nails. From the attic, it is apparent that the upper gable was originally sheathed with decorative shingles, as suggested by lathing strips that survive under modern sheathing. On the west elevation of the wing, a single six-over-six window is offset to north of center on both the first and second stories. The foundation and siding have been covered with stucco on this elevation. The eave is boxed but otherwise plain; the roof is standing-seam metal. A brick stove chimney at the south end of the roof has been cut down and capped with flashing about five courses above the roof. Single six-over-six windows are offset to west of center on the north gable of the wing. This elevation has been covered with stucco as well.

FIGURE 4-5. *West parlor in the original house, facing north. The log construction is exposed on the north and west walls of the west room, as are hewn and pit-sawn ceiling joists. The partition to the right is constructed of beaded vertical boards, some early and others added as part of a late twentieth-century renovation.*

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: INTERIOR

The original log structure at the core of the Gill House is partitioned to form a hall-parlor plan, with the larger, heated room to the west and a smaller unheated room to the east. The larger room measures 12'-2" from east to west and is 18'-3" deep, with exposed ceiling joists running north to south. The front entrance door is in the south elevation with a six-over-six window in the west bay; a second door in the corresponding position on the north wall now opens into a 1970s addition. The log construction of the north wall is exposed in this room, and from this it is clear that there was never a window in the west bay of the north wall, raising the possibility that an original, one-story "outshut" addition may have adjoined the house on this side.

FIGURE 4-6. *Fireplace on west wall of original house. The size of the fireplace opening indicates it was intended to heat this, the best room, but was not intended for cooking.*

The stone fireplace is centered on the west gable wall, served by a massive stone chimney heavily coated with whitewash. This chimney measures 7'-4" north to south and is approximately 3'-7" deep; it projects from the west gable wall and was incorporated into the later two-story west wing. The firebox measures 3'-10" wide by 1'-7" deep and 2'-9" high at the center of the arched opening, proportions that suggest it was intended for heat but not for cooking.

A small four-over-four window to the right of the fireplace provides light to this side of the room and a door to the left of the fireplace provides access to the west wing. It has been suggested that this door was the original principal entrance and while the opening does appear to be early (the jambs are properly pinned into the logs), all other evidence argues that it was a secondary door in a traditional hall-and-parlor plan house. It may be an indication that a kitchen outbuilding was located off the west gable end of the house, a feature that would have been demolished or incorporated into the

present two-story wing. The door and window on the south wall and the interior door in the east partition are framed with 3¾" symmetrical trim typical of the late nineteenth century, mitered at the corners and lacking corner blocks. Trim on the north and west doors and the west window is plain, ranging from 3½" to 5½" in width.

FIGURE 4-7. *West room of original house, facing south. The log construction of the south wall is concealed behind modern plaster or drywall. A door to the left of the fireplace now opens into the west wing, but originally may have provided access to the kitchen, located either in a smaller, earlier wing, or as a separate structure.*

The south exterior wall is finished with plaster or drywall but the original log construction is exposed on the north and west walls. The logs range from 8" to 12" in height and have been chinked with mortar that dates to the late twentieth-century restoration. The logs are oak (or possibly chestnut) and are joined at the corners with V-notch joints. The ceiling joists are exposed and beaded, 3½" wide and of uncertain depth, set on 24" centers. Flooring in this room is 2½" wide with a tongue-and-groove edge and laid from east to west. This modern flooring may explain why the fireplace hearth projects just 5" into the room, most likely an alteration made when the new flooring was installed.

A door in the east partition opens into the smaller, east room, which now serves as a kitchen. This room measures 7'-3½" from east to west and 18'-3 deep, and incorporates a rebuilt stair across the north end. The partition between the two rooms is 4" thick and the west face has been sheathed with vertical panel boards—most are 13" to 14" wide and struck with a ¼" bead and tongue-and-groove edges, but some are not beaded and are secured with wire nails. Mark Joyner indicates that this paneling was added by Tom Ashe as part of his renovation of the house. The kitchen is entirely modern. The walls and ceiling are finished with drywall rather than plaster, and the 3¼" tongue-and-groove flooring appears to be laid over the 2½" flooring found in the west room, as it is raised 1" above that flooring and runs north to south.

FIGURE 4-8. *Original chimney viewed from the attic, facing west. The stone chimney with red limewash finish retains a clear outline of the pitched roof of the original 1½-story house, now encapsulated within the attic of the raised, two-story house. The shaft was extended in height with brick construction when the roof was raised, and the chimney received additional protection when the two-story west wing was added around 1900. Gable framing and siding from the period II west gable is evident to either side of the chimney. The attic beyond the chimney serves the west wing.*

Originally, the period I house was one-and-a-half stories, but the roof was removed and a full second story was added. The outline of the original roof peak survives, visible from the present attic as a ghost in the original chimney shaft. The pitch of the original roof was 40 degrees, and the peak of the roof was approximately 9'-1" above the original loft floor. One piece of early trim was also found, reused as a nailer in the later roof. This element has a beaded edge and

retained one early, hand-forged T-head nail. While it could be from another building, it seems likely to be a fragment from the period I house.

The second story of this part of the enlarged house consists today of two bed chambers and a modern bath. A scar in the floor at the top of the staircase at the east gable end of the second story indicates the location of a brick stove chimney and serves as evidence that the stair location has probably been altered. Historic material on the second story includes two late nineteenth-century batten doors and four manufactured rim locks with a mixture of porcelain and stamped metal knobs. Of particular interest is an inscription in the east face of the west chimney, found by Tom Ashe during renovation work. Inscribed in the mortar are two dates: "1804" and "1909." These appear to have been inscribed at the same time, and presumably date to 1909. Tom Ashe framed the inscription with plexiglass rather than covering it back up.

FIGURE 4-9. *Roof framing in period II attic, facing west. The 1½-story log house was raised to two stories shortly after the Civil War. The new roof was framed with circular-sawn common rafters, mitered at the ridge and nailed with mature machine-made nails. Circular-sawn collar pieces were scabbed on at a later date using wire nails, which came into use in the 1880s.*

The period II roof is constructed of common-rafter pairs joined at the ridge with mitered and nailed joints, and mitered and nailed at the base to flat false plates supported by the second-story ceiling joists. The rafters range in size from 2" by 4" to 2" by 5½" and are circular-sawn; nails are mature, machine-made nails of a type commonly used from the 1830s to the 1880s. Four rafter pairs have been reinforced at a later date with light collar pieces, circular-sawn and scabbed on with wire nails. The ceiling joists also are circular-sawn and measure 2" by 7½". The west gable end of this roof survives intact where it was encapsulated at a later date by the construction of the west wing. The exterior siding is painted white; the gable trim is green.

In the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, the two-story wing was added to the west gable of the original house. This construction phase was the third major period of development. The first story of this wing consists of a single room that incorporates the massive stone chimney of the original house. A stair rises against the south wall to the second story, which was partitioned at one time into two rooms, but now serves as a single bed chamber. The upper shaft of a brick stove chimney survives in the attic, directly above the present stair, evidence that the stair dates to a subsequent period of change.

The unfinished attic of the west wing is accessible from the attic of the earlier house. The roof is framed with circular-sawn 2" by 4" lumber, mitered at the ridge and nailed with wire nails, indicating a construction date no earlier than ca. 1885. The south gable is framed with standard 2" by 4" studs and retains horizontal 1" by 3" to 1" by 5" nailers applied with 2" to 3" gaps, indicating that this gable originally was sheathed with ornamental shingles. The early shingle finish has been replaced with modern horizontal siding. The north gable is framed with rough pole studs mitered to the bottom face of the gable rafter pair with wire nails, and sheathed with circular-sawn horizontal siding, presumably original. The ceiling joists for the second story are also circular-sawn 2x4's, and the ceiling plaster is applied to wood lathing.

FIGURE 4-10. *First-floor dining room, west wing. This wing was added by "Bun Graham" around 1900 and the first-floor room now serves as the dining room.*

Local tradition has suggested that the west wing was a separate house that was moved to this location and joined to the earlier Gill House. However, there are no nail holes in the top face of the period III rafters where they are protected at the juncture with the main house, so this portion of the roof was never covered with shingles—a pretty clear indication that the west wing was built in place and was not moved.

FIGURE 4-11. *An early hatchet, found in the Gill House in recent years.*

OUTBUILDING

A small, one-story frame outbuilding is located to the north of the house. This building measures 8'-4" from north to south and 10'-4½" from east to west, with a moderately pitched gable roof oriented on the east-west axis. The building is constructed of circular-sawn board-and-batten siding applied to a timber frame with wire nails; the only opening is a door centered in the south wall. This structure is constructed over a deep, concrete-walled pit, suggesting that it was used as an ice house and dairy. The building is badly overgrown and near collapse, making more detailed analysis difficult. The pit is only partially visible through the collapsed floor and other debris.

NOTES

[1] John and Elizabeth Love and Josiah Watson to Richard Gill, August 13, 1796, Prince William County Deed Book Z, folio 58-59.

[2] John and Elizabeth Love and Josiah Watson to Robert Thrift, Lot 5, November 9, 1797, Deed Book Z, folio 47-48. A similar reference is found in the boundary description for Lot 4 in a deed executed October 3, 1799. See Deed Book 4, folio 527.

[3] Richard Gill appears in the Buckland tax assessments continuously from 1799 through 1851. See transcriptions prepared by David Blake for the Buckland Preservation Society.

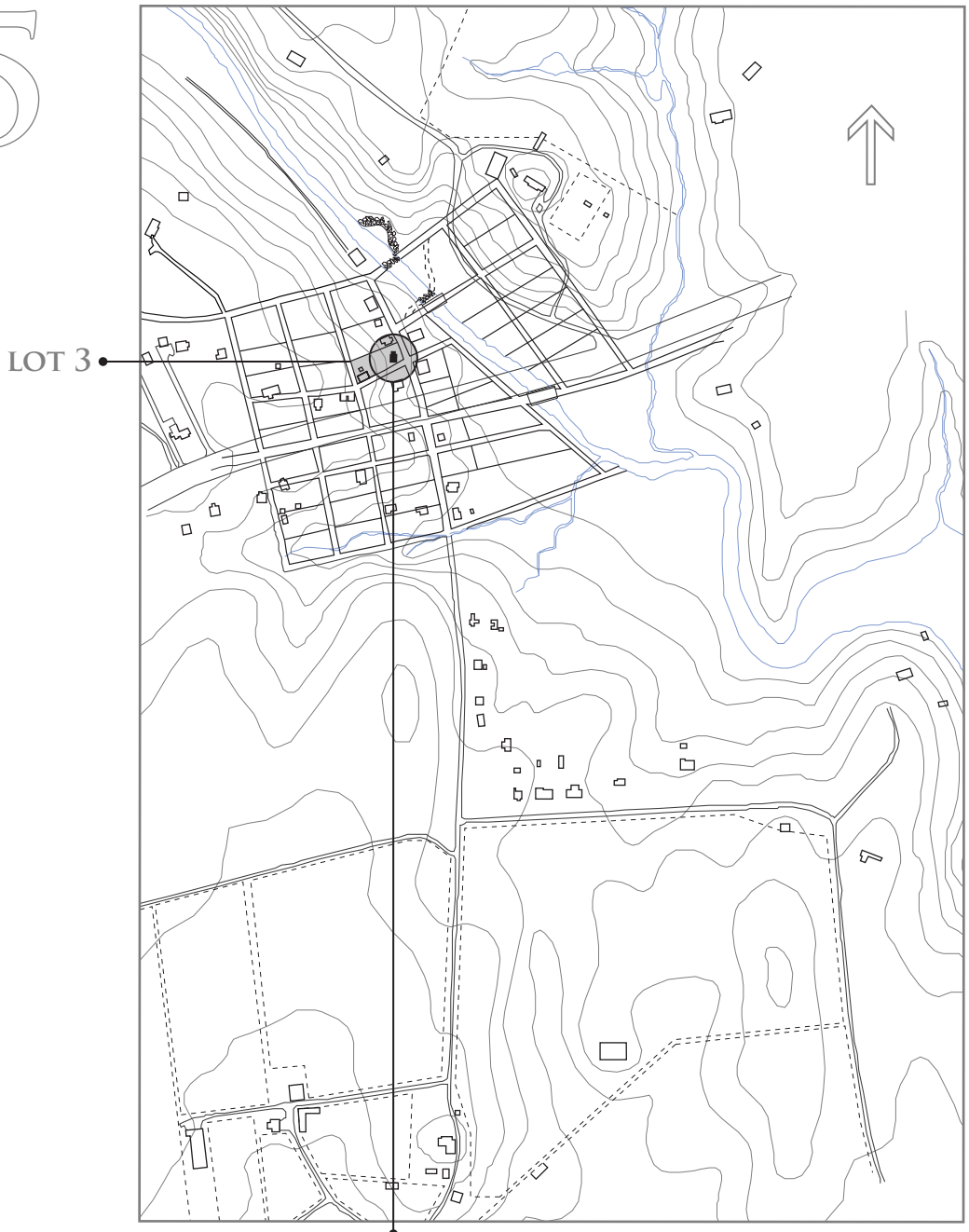
[4] Charles A. Ware for the heirs of Richard Gill to John B. Hunton, November 1, 1855, Deed Book 23, folio 302.

[5] Laurie C. Wieder, ed., *Prince William: A Past to Preserve* (Prince William County Historical Commission, 1998), p. 126.

[6] Opinions vary as to the dates in the scratched inscription and the possible meaning. The interpretation offered here is the collective view of the survey team based on currently available evidence, but should be considered tentative and open to challenge.

[7] Mark Joyner provided extensive commentary on the history and significance of the Gill House as well as background information on recent improvements to the house. Interview with Orlando Ridout V, April 30, 2005.

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE REPORT 5



Graham House

8108 Buckland Mill Road

early to mid-1950s; late 20th-century




FIGURE 5-1. *East elevation. Constructed in the 1950s, the Graham House is said to include building materials salvaged from a house demolished for the widening of Lee Highway.*

Significance

The Graham House was constructed in the early to mid 1950s, during or shortly after the completion of a major highway project that expanded Lee Highway from two lanes to four. While it has been suggested that the core of the house dates to the 1880s and was moved to this location from a site in the path of the highway, it seems more likely that it was constructed entirely on this site, incorporating some materials salvaged from an earlier building. This is the only mid-twentieth century residence in the core of Buckland's historic district, but is representative of housing added along Lee Highway in the post-World War II period.

Historical Summary

The house at 8108 Buckland Mill Road, tentatively identified as the Graham House, is located on Lot No. 3 in the original plan of Buckland. Richard Gill occupied this lot as early as 1796 and by 1799 had constructed a blacksmith shop at the southeast corner of the lot.[1] Gill's dwelling house survives to the present, located at the upper end of the lot.[2] His blacksmith shop must have stood in the yard of the present house and this lot must be considered a priority site for archeological testing.

The present house was included in the 1987 National Register nomination for the Buckland Historic District. In that nomination, this house was described as follows:

> …the dwelling at 8108 Buckland Mill Road was moved in 1953 to its present location from a site on the north side of the highway and placed on new concrete block foundations. It was thoroughly rehabilitated, including the addition of gabled dormers masking the lines of the original 1880s dwelling.[3]

Later in the text, one additional note is included—that the "two gabled dormers [were] added ca. 1957."[4] The most likely source in 1987 of such specific information regarding the house would have been Martha Leitch, owner of Deerlick Cottage since 1953 and recognized as a local historian. Regrettably, Martha Leitch had been in poor health in recent years and died just as the current survey project was getting underway. Tom Ashe, who purchased the Buckland Tavern in 1975 and is the current owner of this house as well, is now the most knowledgeable local resident on Buckland's late twentieth-century history.

The Graham House was designated as a contributing resource to the historic district, presumably on the basis of the oral tradition that it is a ca. 1880s house moved to the present location in 1953. Photographs of Buckland taken by local resident Grace Bear in the late 1940s and early 1950s demonstrate that there was no house on this site at that time, and her photographs of two buildings that were demolished for the highway bear no resemblance to this house.[5]

FIGURE 5-2. *South elevation view.*

Tom Ashe, who purchased the house and lot in 1981 from Alma Bridge, believes that the house was built about 1952 and has found that it contains salvaged material but, in his opinion, was built from scratch in a

single episode.[6] The deed by which Mr. Ashe purchased the house and 0.324 acres notes that this is the "same land conveyed unto the grantor herein by deed dated November 26, 1963 from Cora Lee Graham, et al, which deed is duly recorded…in Deed Book 310, page 535… Said parcel is shown on a plat recorded with deed in Deed Book 110, page 196." While further title research is needed, it seems likely that the Graham family built the house in the 1950s, and the house tentatively has been named accordingly.[7]

Interior access has not been available as part of the present architectural survey, but there is little reason to believe that a significant early structure forms the core of this building. However, a reconsideration of the building's age and significance should be deferred until a thorough examination of the building can be made.

FIGURE 5-3. *View from southwest.*

Architectural Description: Exterior

The house is rectangular in form and oriented on the north-south axis parallel to Mill Street, one story high on a concrete-block foundation, with a shallow pitched roof. The east elevation, facing Buckland Mill Road, is the principal façade. It is four bays wide, with the door located in the second bay from the south, protected by a small, pitched-roof entrance porch, and small, six-over-six windows in the other three bays. There are two pitched-roof dormers with six-over-six windows on this elevation. A one-bay addition projects from the north gable, and there are lean-to additions across the back. A small six-light window in the upper gable of the south wall and a louvered vent in the north gable provide light and ventilation to a low attic.

NOTES

[1] Richard Gill purchased Lot No. 3 from John and Elizabeth Love and Josiah Watson on August 13, 1796. The purchase price of £15 evidently confirmed Gill's ownership of land he had already improved, and the deed describes the property as "all that Tenement lott and parcel of Ground whereon the said Richard Gill at present dwells." (Deed Book Z, folio 58-59). The earliest reference to Richard Gill's Blacksmiths shop is found in a deed dated November 9, 1797, for Lot No. 5, two lots to the south. The boundary description for Lot No. 5 begins "at the distance of one hundred & forty feet…from the South front corner of Richard Gill's Blacksmiths shop." (Deed Book Z, folio 47-48). The property was sold to John B. Hunton by Gill's heirs in 1855 (Deed Book 23, folio302).

[2] See survey documentation in this report for "Lot 3: Richard Gill House."

[3] National Register nomination for Buckland Historic District, section 7, page 2. Prepared by James C. Massey, July 14, 1987; Division of Historic Landmarks Survey File No. 76-313, May 1987.

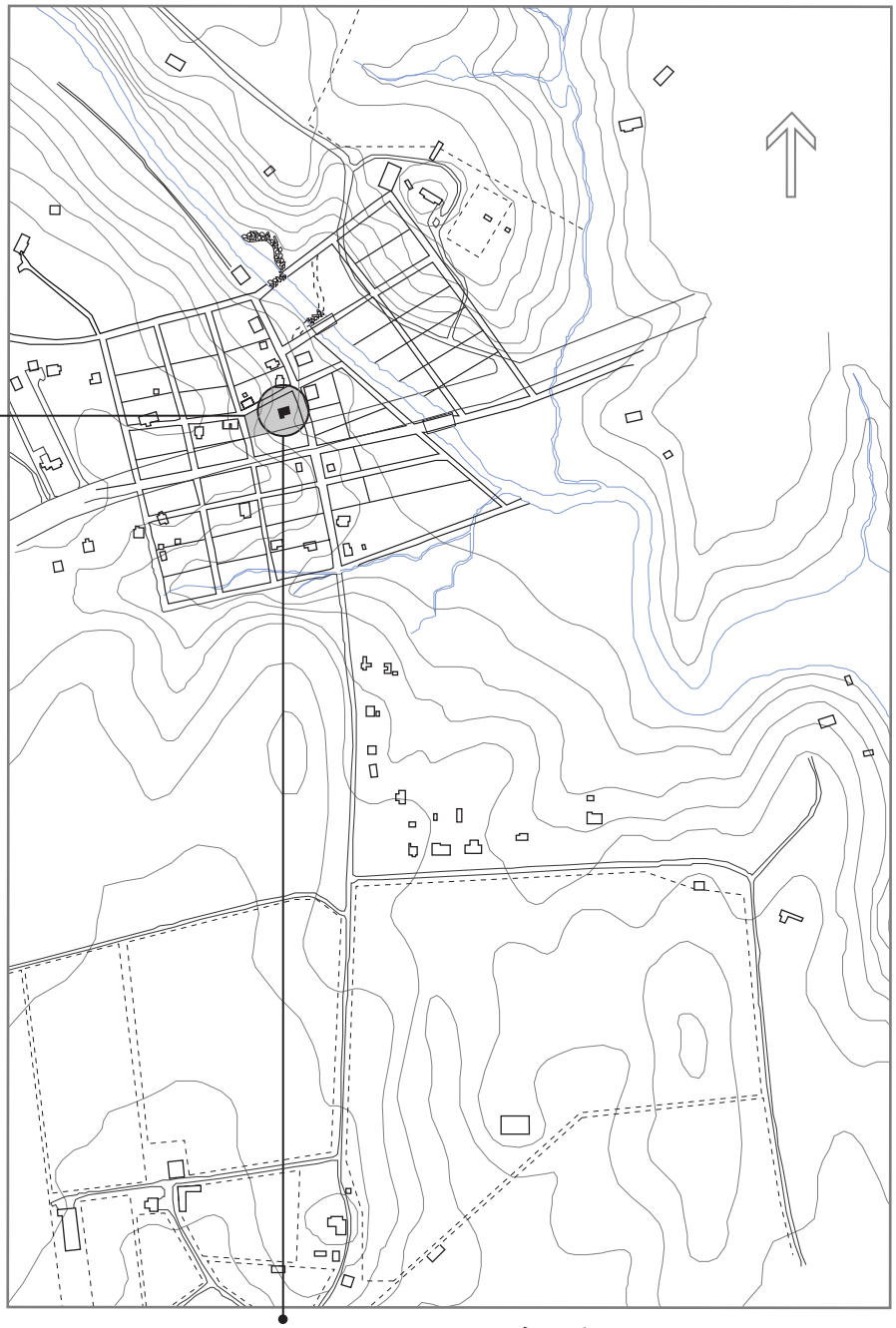
[4] National Register nomination, section 7, page 4.

[5] These photographs passed to Tom Ashe when he purchased the Buckland Tavern from the estate of Grace Bear in 1975. Letters included with her papers document Grace's efforts to reduce the impact of the 1953 highway project on the historic character of Buckland. The photographs are not dated, but pre-date the highway project and include automobiles dating to the late 1940s. The cumulative focus of key photographs indicates that at least some of these were taken to document conditions at the intersection of Lee Highway and Buckland Mill Road, and probably were taken to support her opposition to the road project.

[6] Interviews with Tom Ashe by Orlando Ridout V, June 4 and June 18, 2005.

[7] Excerpts quoted from Tom Ashe's personal copy of the deed, dated April 25, 1981.

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE REPORT 6



Buckland Tavern

Robinson's Tavern

8106 Buckland Mill Road

DHR No. 76-33

ca. 1824; late 19th-century; 1947-48; 1975-76



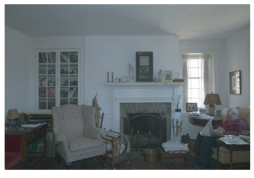



Figure 6-1. *East elevation, from Mill Street. Constructed by Edward Robinson in 1824, this stone house also served as a tavern. The house was saved from neglect by Grace Bear in the late 1940s and restored in 1975-76 by Thomas J. Ashe, Jr.*

Significance

Local tradition holds that the Buckland Tavern dates to the eighteenth century and predates the creation of the town of Buckland. A careful examination of architectural evidence indicates the tavern dates to the late 1810s or early 1820s. The property was purchased by Edward N. Robinson in 1818 and Robinson is charged for a "new building" in the 1825 tax assessment. While this entry cannot be tied definitively to this structure, a construction date of ca. 1824 is consistent with the technological and decorative detailing of the structure. Documents from the 1840s indicate this is the building occupied by Robinson as a tavern, a function that is consistent with one particular aspect of the plan. While the side-passage, single-parlor plan is widely used for dwellings, in this case there is no direct communication between the best public room on the first floor and the original rear wing. This separation of the main structure and the wing would be highly inconvenient for traditional domestic use, but makes rational sense for a building that combines public commercial activity such as a tavern with family living needs.

This tavern is one of two such structures to survive in Buckland, and is the most intact of four early commercial buildings in the town. It is a particularly handsome landmark on Lee Highway, a visible symbol of the commercial prosperity that accompanied the construction of the Alexandria-Warrenton Turnpike in the early 1820s. The building retains most of its original interior detailing and serves as a useful benchmark for the introduction of early machine-headed cut nails in rural Northern Virginia. Also of interest is a section of the original rear cornice that retains its first-generation red paint, protected for many years by the crown mold, and in more recent years captured within the attic of the rear wing.

Historical Summary

The Buckland Tavern stands on Lot No. 4 in the original town plan. The earliest transaction located for Lot No. 4 occurred on February 15, 1799, when John and Elizabeth Love sold it to Charles M. Thornhill.[1] The price of £60 indicates the lot was already improved by a building that probably predated creation of the town. Thornhill did not retain ownership for long, but evidently conveyed the lot to Alice and Washington J. Washington, who in turn sold it to William Brooks on October 3, 1799, for £100.[2] This is presumably the lot listed in the 1799 tax assessment for Buckland as a "House & Lot" owned by John Washington, valued at $50, indicating the annual rental value. In 1800 and 1801, William Brooks is assessed for Lot No. 4, valued at $60, and in subsequent years through 1812 the annual rental value varies from $40 to $60.[3]

On February 5, 1813, William Brooks sold the property to Larkin Sanders for £100 and in December 1818 Sanders sold Lot 4 to Edward N. Robinson.[4] The 1820 tax assessment was more detailed than usual, and provides this description of Lot 4:

> Edward N. Robinson…Lot No. 4…Lot $400…Buildings $340…Rent $40…Conveyed by Larkin Sanders…[5]

Robinson also was assessed for Lot No. 32, located across Mill Street and to the south, adjacent to what would become the Warrenton Turnpike.[6] Robinson held these properties until his death in 1844 or 1845.[7] The valuation for Lot 4 varies little over that period of ownership, and yet the architectural evidence seems

clear that the building known today as the Buckland Tavern must date to the late 1810s or early 1820s. This conclusion is based on trim details and the early machine-made nails found in the roof frame. Robinson's assessment does rise by an additional $700 in 1825 "for new building." This notation seems to relate to Lot 32 rather than Lot 4, but the timing for this improvement is such a clean fit with the architectural evidence that it seems almost certain to relate to the present building. While both the roof and the trim could be the result of a major rebuilding of an earlier stone structure, it seems more likely that the tax assessments are misleading, and the entire building dates to 1824.[8]

An indenture executed in 1845 provides useful insights into Robinson's property and personal assets. To secure a debt of $91.86 owed to Charles Hunton, Edward N. Robinson pledges

> four head of cattle, six hogs, four beds & furniture, two dozen chairs, one side board and the balance of his household and kitchen furniture, also the lot of land on which the said Robinson resides in the Town of Buckland and is occupied by him as a Tavern; and also the House &c., in which is now kept the Post Office and outhouses thereon erected also the house and lot on the opposite side of the street occupied by Elias Brain as a dwelling and store house and on which stand a stable and kitchen. Also a piece of meadow land on the north side of Broad Run lying along the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike road and Broad Run and supposed to contain about three acres.[9]

While the description of Robinson's real estate fails to use lot numbers, raising some uncertainty as to which buildings were on Lot 4, a deed executed in 1848 ties the tavern to William Waller, and Waller can be identified as the purchaser of Lot No. 4. On July 8, 1848, Eppa Hunton, the Commissioner in a suit of Gaines versus Hunton, declares:

> it appearing to the court that Wm. Waller the purchaser of the tavern lot mentioned in these proceedings…the said tavern and lot in the town of Buckland and the other houses thereon erected being the same that was conveyed by said Robinson to Jno. W. Tyler by deed of trust bearing date the 9th day of August 1845.[10]

William Waller is listed as the owner of Lot No. 4, valued at $1200, in the Buckland tax assessments for 1851, 1860, 1861, and 1865.[11] Thus it seems clear that Edward Robinson lived here and operated a tavern in this stone building. Documentary research has yet to determine when it became a tavern, but the segregation evident in the first-floor plan supports the proposition that the building was intended to serve as both a public commercial enterprise and as private dwelling space from its inception.

The post-1870 history of the tavern has been assembled and published by the historian H. H. Douglas.[12] In 1875 or 1876, William Waller encountered financial difficulties, and in September 1876 the property was sold to Malcolm B. and Francis W. Washington. Two days later the Washingtons sold the property for $2500 to Lucy G. Payne, who bequeathed it to her daughter in 1897. Lucy Payne's heirs retained ownership until 1938. The property then passed through four changes of ownership in a little less than a decade. Finally, it was purchased on August 18, 1947, by Grace Bear, who undertook a major renovation of the tavern. Photographs published by H. H. Douglas provide a record of the building in 1944 and the 1950s. They are a testament to the work undertaken by Grace Bear to reclaim the abandoned, uninhabitable building. She stripped the stucco from the exterior stonework, installed six-over-six windows in the bare openings, and built the stone steps with iron railings that still serve the front door. In 1970, at the age of 82, Grace Bear had to leave her restored home and move into a nursing home. By August of 1973, the empty house was overgrown with vines and underbrush, and Douglas closed his essay with a plea to Grace Bear's legal guardians to sell the property to provide for her support.

The property was offered for sale at public auction on August 25, 1975.[13] The high bidder was Thomas J. Ashe, Jr. Already a seasoned veteran of house restorations in Maryland, Mr. Ashe launched a comprehensive renovation and restoration of the house. Over the ensuing years he has become a key landholder in Buckland, as he purchased, stabilized and restored the John Trone House, the Richard Gill House, and the Buckland Church.

Architectural Description: Exterior

The Buckland Tavern is located on the west

side of Buckland Mill Road (originally Mill Street) immediately north of Lee Highway. The building is of stone construction, two stories high on an exposed cellar, and one room deep. It is rectangular in form, measuring 18'-3" by 28'-5", and is oriented on a north-south axis so that its three-bay principal elevation faces east across Mill Street toward Broad Run. The house is laid out with a side-passage, single-parlor plan, with the stair passage across the south end of the building and a rectangular parlor to the north. An interior, gable-end chimney is positioned slightly off-center at the north end of the gable roof, providing flues for one fireplace at cellar, first- and second-story levels. A stone foundation (forming a one-room cellar) and chimney for an early rear wing survive under the present addition, built in 1975-76.

FIGURE 6-2. *View from southeast. The stone steps were added in the late 1940s; the rear addition dates to 1975-76.*

The building is constructed into the side of the hill that rises to the west from the banks of Broad Run, so the cellar is fully exposed on the east elevation, but is largely below grade on the west. The east façade is three bays wide and is fully articulated with fenestration at all three levels. The main entrance is located in the south bay of the first story, with six-over-nine windows in the center and north bays. There are three six-over-six windows similarly positioned on the second story. At cellar level, a door is located in the north bay and a small window is located in the center bay; the south bay is concealed by the stone foundation for the steps that serve the first-story entrance. Based on photographs taken in the 1940s and the early 1970s, the window sash was missing when Grace Bear purchased the property in 1947, and she installed six-over-six sash at both the first and second stories. Tom Ashe replaced the first-story sash with six-over-nine in 1975-76. The stone entrance steps also are not present in the 1940s photographs and were added by Grace Bear, as demonstrated by a photograph dating to the 1950s.

The principal door opening on the first story is generously proportioned, permitting a pair of paneled doors below a five-light transom. Each door leaf measures 1'-9¼" wide by 6'-2½" high, with four panels arranged vertically. The panel molds are early nineteenth century, but are more elaborate than paneling within the house. Moreover, the doors are of oak, which is uncommon for this region, and contrast with the southern yellow pine found in all other decorative woodwork in this building. These doors are of the period and were already in place prior to the Tom Ashe's acquisition of the property at auction in August 1975, as demonstrated by a published photograph taken on the day of the auction. Most likely they were installed by Grace Bear following her purchase of the property in 1947.

All of the first- and second-story openings are framed with bold torus moldings typical of the region from about 1820 to the 1860s, and utilize two-inch wood sills. The cellar window in the center bay is fitted with a small pair of modern six-light casement sash set in a beaded and pinned frame that appears to be original, while the frame for the cellar door dates to the 1970s restoration. The cellar door is early—a batten door with vertical beaded boards applied to horizontal battens. The door was later altered by cutting an opening and fitting it with a six-light sash to provide more light to the cellar interior.

The cornice appears to date to three periods. The primary elements are consistent with an early nineteenth-century date: a complex crown mold is applied to a beaded fascia above a plain soffit, and a complex bed mold below the soffit is applied to a molded frieze board that lays against the stone wall. The crown mold does not return at the corners, but instead extends approximately 12 inches beyond the corners and is carried up the gable eaves with a comparable overhang. Overshot gable eaves are a detail that came into fashion after 1850 and are a standard feature of houses from the 1860s to the early twentieth century. Photographs of this building dating prior to 1975 indicate that the overshot eaves were decorated with scalloped bargeboards, a

feature also found on the Richard Gill House and the Moss House—in all three cases an indication of post-1850 alterations to earlier buildings. Here, the original cornice was retained on the front and rear elevations, but the gable eaves were modified later in the nineteenth century, possibly in conjunction with a rebuilt upper chimney stack. In 1975, Tom Ashe removed the scalloped bargeboards, but retained the overshot eave detail and added appropriate period crown mold. The roof is covered with wood shingles, dating to the 1975-76 restoration. Photographs from the 1940s and early 1970s indicate the roof was standing-seam metal, but the original roof would have been wood shingle.

The chimney is located at the north end of the gable roof, and is set slightly off-center, biased approximately 5" to the east of the ridge line. This chimney stack is of brick construction, not unusual for the upper shaft on a stone house. However, the brickwork—and in particular the ornamental modillion cap—are virtually identical to the chimneys on the Dr. Brown House, located directly across the street. The Brown House was built in two periods, and the northern section, its chimney, and the upper shaft of the earlier south chimney all date to the mid nineteenth century or later. Thus it seems certain that the upper portion of the tavern chimney was rebuilt as well, possibly by the same mason who worked across the street.

The masonry is laid with local rubble stone, varied in color, shape and size. Larger stones with smooth faces have been used intermittently at the corners of the building and, less often, at the edges of window and door openings. Some stones have been placed vertically to form jambs but this, too, is intermittent, and there is no other concession to the structural requirements of spanning an opening—no arches, lintel stones or other visible expression of support, indicating the load is being carried by wood lintels concealed in the masonry. The color of the stonework ranges from a gray-black to a soft buff color, with the lighter-colored stone more concentrated in the upper portion of the wall. One particularly large stone with a smooth face is positioned at the north end of the east elevation, just above the first-story window lintels. This stone would have been ideally suited for a date or inscription, but serves merely as a structural corner block. The stonework has been extensively repointed with a modern Portland-based mortar, but original mortar is readily apparent. This is a relatively soft, buff-colored, lime-based mortar with a high clay content. A photograph taken in 1944 indicates that the house was rendered with stucco at some point; the ghost outline of a one-story, hipped roof porch indicates the stucco was applied after the porch was in place.

Two iron straps project from the stonework at the top of the cellar story. These appear to be salvaged iron wheel rims from a wooden wagon wheel, and probably relate to the one-story porch that had disappeared sometime before 1944, as demonstrated by the previously cited photograph. Evidence of filled joist pockets can be discerned just above the level of the first story window heads, suggesting the location of the ceiling joists, but no trace survives to indicate that floor joists were bedded in the stonework, or to indicate how the rafters were joined to the house. Also absent are ghosting or tar lines, presumably lost when the stucco was removed in the late 1940s.

On the south gable, one six-over-six window is centered in the cellar foundation (set high to light the cellar stair), and another six-over-six window is centered in the second story. The cellar window is set in a beaded frame, mitred at the top corners and pinned to the wood sill. The second-story window is framed with the same torus-molded frame found on the front elevation. The roof oversails by about 12" at the gable eaves, with the roof sheathing supported by a projecting ridge piece and five jack purlins in each plane of the roof. A molded barge board is nailed to the outer face of these members. The 1975 rear addition wraps around the southwest corner of this elevation.

On the north gable elevation, a six-over-nine window is located in the east bay of the first story and a six-over-six window is located in the west bay of the second story. The windows are set in torus-molded frames with wood sills, matching the windows on the front facade. The stonework and gable eaves match the south elevation. There is one curious feature of the stonework—a pair of narrow stones are set vertically, about 12" apart, at the level of the attic floor joists. If located higher in the upper gable, they would probably indicate a small window or vent opening for the attic (blocked at a later date), and if located in the more visible south gable, they could have framed a date-stone. But in this case they seem simply to be an anomaly. The 1975 rear addition wraps around the northwest corner of this elevation.

The west elevation is entirely covered by the present two-story frame addition, the third wing to stand on this site, as suggested by physical evidence and photographs taken in the mid-1940s and during the 1975-76 restoration. An early rear wing covered the center and north bays at cellar, first-, and second-story level, and a one-story porch extended along the south side of the wing. A cellar door to south of center provides direct communication between the main house and the cellar of the original wing, and a door in the north bay of the second story provides access from the north room on the second floor down several steps to the second story of the present wing. Curiously, there is no direct connection between the north room of the first story and the wing. Instead, the door in the south bay, at the rear of the main stair passage, seems to have opened onto the porch of the wing, providing a degree of separation between house and wing that may be evidence that the building was conceived as a tavern from the start. This separation of space would be consistent with a building that is serving as a tavern, with the family space confined to the rear wing, and possibly the second story of the main house, assuming the second-story connecting door is original. A six-over-six window in the south bay of the second story provides light to the upper staircase and the second-story passage.

The chimney and foundation survive from the earliest wing. The foundation is stone and projects approximately 18'-6" to the west of the main house and measures approximately 13'-0" wide on the north-south axis. A fragment of original sill survives at the southeast juncture of the main house and the foundation for the wing. This fragment indicates that the original wing was of frame construction above the stone foundation, and the height of the chimney indicates the wing was probably just one story, despite the 20" thick foundation walls. The chimney is off-set to south of center on the west gable wall and served fireplaces on the cellar and first story levels.

Sometime in the latter half of the nineteenth century, the early wing was either demolished or significantly rebuilt. A photograph taken in the mid-1940s illustrates a two-story frame wing with a very shallow pitched gable roof that oversails at the gable eaves and is decorated with scalloped barge boards. This wing was in poor condition by 1975 and Tom Ashe demolished it and constructed a new and larger frame addition. As part of that work, the chimney was extended by shouldering in a second time at the original cap, raising the height of the shaft to provide code clearance for the roofline of the new, deeper west wing.

Architectural Description: Interior

The first floor of the main house is laid out with a two-room plan—a side stair-passage extends across the south end of the house, and a rectangular parlor lies to the north, heated by a chimney stack on the north gable wall. The passage measures 8'-3" in width, broad enough for a comfortably proportioned stair and passage, but clearly not intended to serve as important public or entertaining space. The stair rises against the south wall to a landing in the southwest corner, turns 90 degrees and rises against the west wall to the second story. It is an open-string stair with solid, scroll-sawn stair brackets applied to a beaded stringer, two rectangular-section balusters per step, a turned newel post and a molded walnut handrail. While the handrail is typical of mainstream Federal period work, the newel post combines elements that are more typical of the transition from Federal to Greek Revival. The upper part of the newel is delicate, with a profile that can be found from the 1790s to the 1820s, and the lower portion swells in a profile that is a precursor of the bolder Greek Revival work that appears in the 1820s and later. The stair is generously proportioned for a rural vernacular building, with 10 7/8" treads and 7¼" risers.

Original trim in the stair passage includes beaded baseboards, the architrave trim on the front door, the door to the parlor, and the door to the cellar stair. This trim consists of a 1½" Grecian ovolo/astragal backband applied to a 4" fascia with a ½" bead on the inner edge; the baseboard is 6" with a 3/8" bead. The one-piece beaded chair board, beaded coat rail, and the architrave trim for the west door and on the cellar face of the cellar door date to 1975, as demonstrated by chatter marks on the woodwork (made by a modern planer), crisp profiles, limited paint layers, and wire finishing nails. Mr. Ashe recalls that this trim was reproduced for him by Smoots, a Virginia supplier of custom millwork. The front and rear door openings have paneled soffits and jambs, but only the front door paneling matches the paneling in the parlor window reveals, suggesting the rear door details have been altered at some point. Flooring in the passage is random-width, southern yellow pine, 4¾"

to 6½" wide with tongue-and-groove edges, and face-nailed with T-head nails. The floorboards in the passage run east-west to conform to the long dimension of the room.

FIGURE 6-3. *Entry passage and staircase, facing east. The pair of paneled doors at the front entrance are of the appropriate period for the house but are of oak construction, a rare occurrence in northern Virginia. Most likely they were salvaged from elsewhere and installed by Grace Bear in the late 1940s. The delicate newel post is typical of the 1810s and early 1820s.*

The paired doors at the front entrance are of oak rather than pine and have Federal-period panel details, but these do not match other details in the house, raising the possibility that they are from another context. As noted earlier, these doors pre-date the 1975 restoration, as they are visible in photographs taken on the day of the auction in August of that year, but they may have been salvaged from another house by Grace Bear, who renovated the house in the late 1940s. The rear door is a conventional six-panel door, through–tenoned and pinned, with lightly raised panels and cyma panel molds, a match with the door to the cellar stair. The rear door has been reduced in width—the stiles have been cut to 1½" and 1¾" in width—and the top and bottom rails are both narrower than the interior rails, indicating they, too, have been reduced in size. A lock scar also indicates that the door has been reversed, but any hinge scar evidence was lost when the stiles were trimmed. In summary, the six-panel rear door may be from this opening, but has been retrofitted, possibly combined with paneling from another house, and framed with new architrave and backband. This door is now mounted with the panels facing into the passage (whereas the original convention would have placed the panels on the exterior face) and is hung from the north jamb on 2½" cast-iron, two-knuckle butt hinges. The paired doors at the front are mounted to open inward on three sets of modern, brass-plated, 3½" five-knuckle butt hinges, and are secured with a large (4" by 8") brass rim lock installed by Tom Ashe.

The six-panel door that opens onto the cellar staircase is original to this location but has been remounted. Originally, this door opened from the west jamb on cast-iron butt hinges, but has been reversed and now swings from the east jamb on wrought-iron strap hinges. The door that opens from the passage to the parlor is also six-panel, but just 1 1/8" thick and with flat panels that are lightly beveled on the secondary side. The bottom two panels have been installed backwards, with the bevel side facing the passage. This door, the door at the rear of the passage and the door to the cellar stair are all secured with antique iron rim locks added by Mr. Ashe. The parlor lock is unmarked; the other two locks bear the brass seals of the Carpenter Company.

In the parlor, the fireplace is offset to east of center on the north wall, with a window in the recess to the right and a four-door cupboard built in to the left. The fireplace is exposed stonework, and the lintel consists of a stone jack arch supported by an iron bar. Tom Ashe states that the only work he needed to do was to repoint the fireplace; buff colored mortar still survives in combination with the repair work. The hearth is flagstone. The handsome Federal-period mantel incorporates beaded pilasters flanking the opening and beaded side blocks at either end of the plain frieze below a richly molded shelf that breaks forward above the side blocks. The moldings are a combination of Federal and Greek, and all are delicate rather than bold, suggesting a date in the late 1810s or early 1820s.

The built-in cupboard retains a pair of early single-panel doors below the chairboard and has been fitted with a pair of 10-light glass doors above. These doors were given to Tom Ashe by a friend, salvaged from a demolished house near Leesburg. New pieces had to be scarfed onto the stiles and rails to make the doors fit, but the horizontal muntins for the 8" by 10" panes align perfectly with the four double-beaded interior shelves.

Figure 6-4. *First-floor parlor, facing north. The parlor mantel is original and mixes Federal and Greek moldings in a fashion typical of the 1810s and early 1820s. The cupboard to the left retains original paneled doors below and is fitted with glass doors of the period salvaged from another house, but with muntins that align perfectly with the original shelves. The lack of a window opening in the west (left) wall indicates an original wing, and the lack of a door implies a desire to segregate the parlor from the rear wing—evidence that supports the likelihood this building was intended as a tavern.*

The flooring in the parlor matches the passage flooring but runs on the north-south axis rather than east-west, again following the typical fashion of aligning with the long dimension of the room. The baseboard and most of the architrave trim in the parlor are original and match that described for the passage. The architrave on the parlor face of the passage door is later, however, and consists of a bold and angular Greek profile that is typical of the 1850s and closely resembles period II trim in Deerlick Cottage. The two-piece chair board is appropriate for the period, but chatter marks and finishing nails indicate it dates to the 1975 restoration, or may have been installed in the late 1940s. Each of the three parlor window openings is framed with a single long panel the full height of each jamb and a single panel in the soffit. Mr. Ashe found no evidence of either window or door openings in the rear or west wall of the parlor, a detail that suggests that the rear wing was original and that the builder desired to keep this space segregated from the wing.

The second story is partitioned to form a large heated chamber to the north, a smaller, unheated chamber to the southeast, and a stair passage to the southwest. The partitions are constructed with random-width vertical board paneling, 8" to 12" wide, with tongue-and-groove edges and a 1/4" bead. Two changes have occurred to the circulation plan. Prior to 1975, a stair continued up to the unfinished attic. This stair was located above the principal stair, rising against the south gable from the southeast chamber. Tom Ashe recalls a scar in the plaster above the main stair, indicating an earlier stair in the same position. He removed the attic stair and made a new access path through the attic of the rebuilt wing. The resulting opening in the board enclosure was closed up with vertical panel boards that resemble the original material but have a crisper edge bead and lack the jack-planed surface of the original panel boards. Mr. Ashe also closed up a door that had been cut through at the eastern end of the central partition.

Figure 6-5. *North bedchamber, second story. The best bedchamber is heated with a fireplace on the north wall. The fireplace surround is similar to the first-floor mantel, with Federal and Greek moldings. The wardrobe to the left of the chimney conceals an original window in the north wall.*

The north chamber measures 14'-7½" square and is heated by a fireplace on the north gable wall. The fireplace is stone, with a splayed jack arch supported by an iron bar. The hearth is brick laid in mortar. The chamber mantel is similar to the parlor mantel but with less elaboration—a board surround with Grecian ovolo/

astragal backband frames the opening and a molded shelf extends across a plain frieze with no side blocks. The chimney breast projects into the room 1'-6½" and is flanked by a window to the left and a shallow closet to the right. Original architrave trim survives on the windows, the passage door, and the closet door. This trim matches the first floor with minor variations in the width of the fascia.

Figure 6-6. *North bedchamber, second story, facing southeast. The second story is divided into a passage and two chambers by beaded vertical board partitions. At some point a door had been cut through this partition behind the smaller bedside lamp. This door opening was skillfully closed up with appropriate material in 1975-76.*

A door opening in the west wall provides access from the main house into the second story of the present wing. This opening probably dates to the post-Civil War wing that was demolished in 1975. The opening is framed with trim that matches the rest of the room, but bears the chatter marks and wire nails of the 1975 reproduction work. The door to the passage appears to be original, while the closet door and the door to the wing are mid-nineteenth century or later; the latter door has been adapted for this opening, presumably in 1975. All three are of batten construction. The passage door is made of 7½" to 9½" boards with tongue-and-groove edges and a ¼" bead, secured to three horizontal battens using clasp nails; the battens are dressed with 3/8" beads. The door is hung on 3" three-knuckle, cast-iron butt hinges and retains the ghost for an early lock. The door to the rear wing has been cut down along both vertical edges. It is constructed of 5" to 5½" beaded boards secured with large screws to two wide, beveled battens. The closet door is constructed of 4" to 8" beaded boards joined with screws to three narrow, beveled battens. Ghosting in the paint indicates that the door also had diagonal battens, a feature rarely found before the Civil War. This door originally was hung on small butt hinges and was secured with a small (2" by 4") rim lock. Tom Ashe remounted the door on hand-forged strap hinges and the door is secured with a small wooden turn latch.

The southeast chamber is unheated and had been turned into a kitchen by Grace Bear. Tom Ashe removed the kitchen furnishings, closed up a door that had been cut through the center partition, and replaced several floor boards that had been cut up previously for the kitchen plumbing. The stair passage retains early baseboard and architrave trim for the chamber doors; the chair board dates to 1975.

The roof is constructed of common rafter pairs joined at the ridge with pinned half-lap joints and reinforced with collars that are half-lapped and nailed with early machine-made nails and, in one case, a hand-forged T-head nail. The rafters are 2¾" to 3" wide by 3" deep at the ridge, tapering to 4½" at the base. They are set on 24" centers, and are notched and nailed to 1" by 6" false plates. The collars measure 2¾" to 3" wide by 3½" to 3¾" deep. The rafters and collars are sash-sawn. The roof sheathing is 8" to 11" wide and some planks are circular-sawn, indicating the sheathing is not original and probably dates to the installation of the standing-seam metal roof.

A notable feature accessible from the attic of the wing is the remnant of the original rear cornice. This consists of a section of the cornice fascia, nailed in place with T-head nails. The lower edge of the fascia is struck with a 3/8" bead, and the ghost of the missing crown mold is clearly outlined by paint evidence. The fascia was painted reddish-brown before the crown mold was applied, so the paint is in good, unweathered condition where it was protected by the crown mold.

The cellar is a single large room with a large cooking fireplace on the north wall. A stair rises against the south wall to the first-floor passage, and a door opening in the west wall provides access to the cellar of the early wing. The cooking fireplace retains an original iron trammel bar but the iron crane was added by Tom Ashe. The handsome stair was salvaged by Mr. Ashe from "The Parthenon," a demolished house in Bladensburg, Maryland. The door opening in the 2'-2" thick rear wall has neatly finished jambs, further evidence that the wing was original, but it has been

reduced in width due to structural failure. Originally 3'-11" wide, it was reduced to 2'-10" to provide better support for the weight of the first-floor partition. The ceiling joists are original, and are mill sawn, 2½" by 8½", set on 25" to 26½" centers. The first-floor flooring is gauged and undercut and retains traces of whitewash, which has been more thoroughly cleaned from the joists. Nail holes in the ceiling joists indicate a ceiling was added at a later date. The spacing between the nails (3" to 4") indicates the ceiling may have been sheathed with boards rather than lath and plaster. The rear cellar measures 9'-7" from north to south by 17'-0" from east to west (interior dimensions); the south wall is 1'-8" thick. A fireplace is offset to south of center in the west wall.

FIGURE 6-7. *Cellar of main house, facing north. Due to the sloping site, the cellar opens at grade on the east side. The fireplace retains an original trammel bar, supplemented in 1975-76 by a wrought-iron crane.*

At the time he purchased the property, Tom Ashe found one mantel stored in the house. Now stored in the log outbuilding, the mantel may be a survival from the early wing, or may have been acquired by Grace Bear from another house. It is a beaded board surround with a Federal period ovolo backband framing the opening and a molded crown mold below the shelf, which is missing. The crown mold was attached with hand-forged L-head nails, and the mantel retains at least four generations of paint.

Log Outbuilding

Shortly after completing the restoration of the tavern, Tom Ashe disassembled and moved a nineteenth-century log outbuilding to the property. This one-story, rectangular building with a gable roof originally was located on Bull Run Mountain, and now rests on a terrace to the northwest of the tavern. Tom Ashe reconstructed the building and added a low lean-to using other salvage material. The outbuilding measures 10'-1" by 15'-1" and is oriented on the north-south axis. The gable roof is overshot by about 2'-5" at the south gable end, providing additional protection to a full-size batten door centered on the first story and a smaller loft door centered in the upper gable. There are two small window openings in the east wall and another in the upper north gable.

The building rests on a stone foundation built into the gently sloping terrace, and the side walls are ten logs high (7'-2"), with loft floor joists notched over the eighth log. The logs are joined with a simple lap joint at the corners and some logs extend beyond the corners of the building. The wall logs are 5½" thick with 6" to 8" of exposure; the interstices are chinked with white mortar. The loft floor joists are 4½" wide by 5" deep and the rafters are 3" wide by 4" deep, set at a 48-degree pitch and covered with wood shingles. The first floor is flagstone on grade; the loft is floored with rough-sawn planks.

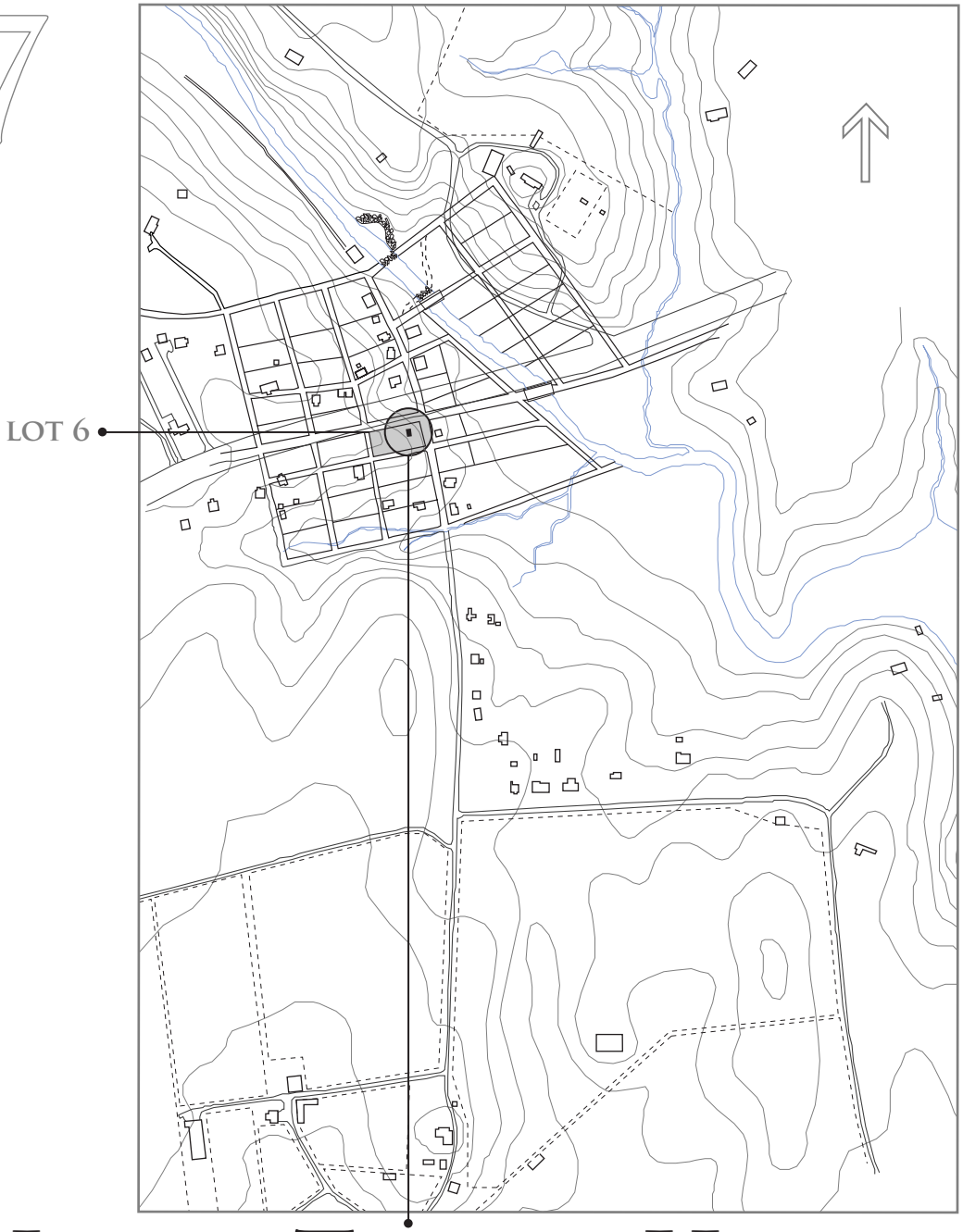
The lean-to addition extends across the west side of the outbuilding. It is also log construction and measures 14'-3" from north to south by 9'-2" east to west. A batten door and a small window provide access in the south wall. A pair of batten doors in the north wall indicate the lean-to was used for drive-in storage.

FIGURE 6-8. *Log outbuilding, viewed from the southwest. This nineteenth-century log outbuilding was moved to the site by the present owner from Bull Run Mountain.*

NOTES

[1] John and Elizabeth Love to Charles M. Thornhill, February 15, 1799, Prince William County Deed Book Z, folio 530.
[2] Alice and Washington J. Washington to William Brooks, October 3, 1799, Deed Book 2, folio 520. The transaction by which the Washingtons acquired the property has not been located to date.
[3] Tax Assessments for Buckland, Virginia, 1799-1877, transcribed by David Blake for the Buckland Preservation Society.
[4] William and Sarah Brooks to Larkin N. Sanders, February 5, 1813, Deed Book 4, folio 527; Larkin N. Sanders to Edward Robinson, December 8, 1818, Deed Book 7, folio 199.
[5] Buckland Tax Assessment for 1820, transcribed by David Blake.
[6] Robinson acquired Lot No. 32 from John Love for $50 by deed dated June 7, 1819. Deed Book 7, folio 194. Despite his purchase of Lot 4 in December 1818, Robinson does not appear in the Buckland tax lists until 1820, charged with lots 4 and 32.
[7] The precise date of Robinson's death has not been identified at this point, and the available documentary evidence is contradictory. His will was executed on May 19, 1840 and entered into probate on April 6, 1846. An inventory of "the property belonging to the estate of Edward N. Robinson deceased" was conducted on April 28, 1844, and entered into probate on the same day as his will. However, the land records also contain a deed dated August 9, 1845, in which Edward N. Robinson conveys property to John W. Tyler to secure a debt. For Robinson's will, see Will Book P, folio 242; Robinson's inventory includes 131 entries valued at $315.77½; it begins on folio 274 of the same volume. The 1845 deed is found in Deed Book 19, folio 22, and is discussed in more detail below.
[8] An evaluation of the entire run of tax assessments indicates that the listings are generally very accurate for the chain of ownership (with one to two years lag time in recognizing a change of owner), but seem less reliable on the year-to-year value of the improvements. Architectural evidence is quite clear that the Dr. Brown House dates to the 1850s, for example, yet there is no change in valuation for that lot for the period 1830 to 1877. Further research should clarify both the reliability of the assessment valuations and conclusions based on the architectural evidence.
[9] Edward N. Robinson to John W. Tyler, August 9, 1845, Deed Book 19, folio 22.
[10] Eppa Hunton, Commissioner, to William Waller, July 8, 1848, Deed Book 20, folio 88. Waller paid $700 for the property.
[11] William Waller is also assessed for Lot 4 in 1874 with a valuation of $500 and in 1877 at $1500. The significance of the lower valuation in 1874 is not clear, but may simply be an error. Other properties on the 1874 list do not change significantly, so it is not explained by a comprehensive change by the assessor in the valuation process.
[12] H. H. Douglas, "Buckland Tavern." *Echoes of History,* Newsletter of the Pioneer America Society, vol. iv, no. 2 (March 1974), pp. 17-23. The following transactions are summarized by Douglas with deed references for most transactions.
[13] Mr. Ashe has preserved a newspaper article describing the sale in a scrapbook of photographs documenting his acquisition of the property and the subsequent restoration project.

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE REPORT 7



John Trone House

8200 Buckland Mill Road

DHR No. 76-123

ca. 1825; late 20th-century




FIGURE 7-1. *East elevation from Buckland Mill Road. This frame house on a full stone cellar story was built by blacksmith and lay preacher John Steadman Trone about 1825.*

Significance

Constructed ca. 1825 by John Steadman Trone, a blacksmith and lay preacher, this house is significant as an example of a small, story-and-a-half dwelling with a two-room plan, the type of house that served middling farmers, merchants and artisans throughout the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Significant details include a handsome brick chimney, enclosed winder stair, early architectural trim, and an unusual newel post at the garret level of the staircase. John Trone was an important figure in Buckland from the 1820s until his death in 1885, and this house serves as a reminder of the key role that skilled artisans played in the success of a small industrial village such as Buckland.

Historical Summary

The John Trone House is located on the west side of Buckland Mill Road just south of Lee Highway. The house is oriented to the east, and is built into the rising ground on the west side of Broad Run. The house stands on Lot No. 6 of the original town plan of Buckland, and was built ca. 1825 by John Steadman Trone (1802-1885), a local blacksmith and lay preacher.[1] John Trone purchased the property from John Love in June 1825 for $75, and physical evidence is consistent with a construction date in the 1820s.[2] Trone operated a blacksmith shop in Buckland and served as a lay preacher for the Buckland Church. He is buried in the graveyard to the west of the church alongside his wife, Delilah (1795-1876), and daughter, Julia Agnes Trone Compton (1839-1914). Later in the nineteenth century, a two-story, temple-form frame building was constructed to the northeast of the Trone House. This structure, known as the Stage Coach Inn, faced the turnpike and was joined to the Trone House by a frame hyphen or connecting wing. Presumably the older portion of the greatly expanded structure continued in use as a private residence, perhaps serving as a residence for the inn keeper. The Stage Coach Inn was demolished about 1935. Stone retaining walls at the north end of the Trone House are believed to be remnants of the connecting hyphen.

Architectural Description: Exterior

The Trone House is a small, 1½ story frame dwelling with a gable roof. The building is constructed on a stone foundation, set into the rising hillside so that the cellar story is fully exposed on the downhill (east) side. Rectangular in form, it measures 16'-3" by 24'-0", oriented on a north-south axis with the east elevation serving as the principal façade. An exterior brick chimney is centered on the south gable end, and stone retaining walls extend from both gables, creating a terraced effect that greatly relieves the problems inherent in a steeply graded site.

FIGURE 7-2. *View from northeast. The stone retaining wall that projects from the north gable (to the right in this image) is a remnant of the hyphen that once joined the Trone House to the Stage Coach Inn, a building which faced the Warrenton Turnpike and was demolished in about 1935. Historic photographs indicate a two-story porch extended across the east or principal façade of the Trone House, with doors in the north and south bays of the first story, later altered to windows.*

The east elevation serves as the principal façade of the house. The stone foundation extends the full height of the cellar story, ranging from 8'-0" (south) to 8'-5" (north) in height. The principal entrance to the house is located in the center bay of this cellar story, with a single six-over-six window on both sides. The foundation is laid with local stone and a buff-colored mortar that is lime-based but with significant clay content; the stonework retains remnants of early whitewash and a later layer of gray paint. Some repair work has been done using Portland-based mortar, particularly on both sides and across the top of the door opening, raising the possibility that the doorway has been altered in some way.

FIGURE 7-3. *View from southeast. The stone and brick chimney serves fireplaces on the cellar and first floor. The door to the left of the chimney is probably not original, as it would have eliminated a key structural brace. Lee Highway and the Buckland Tavern are visible in the background.*

The door opening measures 3'-7" wide by 6'-2" high (rough opening), with a wood lintel and poured concrete sill. The doorframe is beaded, but appears to date to the restoration of the house. Although historic, the door has been modified to admit more light into the cellar story. The two lower panels remain intact and are flat and recessed on the interior face; on the exterior face they are raised in a pyramidal style that was favored during the Greek Revival period (1820s to 1850s). The lock rail and the upper portion of the side stiles have been reconfigured to accept nine 10" by 12" panes of glass set in wide muntins. The door is hung on three cast-iron butt hinges and has been fitted with a handsome antique iron rim lock (4¾" by 6") and a 7" iron slide bolt. Hinge and lock scars indicate that the door has been reversed, and a comparison of the two sides of the door indicates the pyramidal face of the panels was originally oriented to the interior. The six-over-six window sash are early and presumed to be original, with tenoned and pinned frames and 8" by 10" panes. The window frames have been replaced, and modern storm windows have been added.

The first-story fenestration does not align with the cellar openings and has been altered. An undated historic photograph published in 1978 shows the Trone House with three openings on the first story, two of them doors, and no trace of the porch that the doors must have served. The door in the extreme north end of the elevation is set in a proper frame with backband applied to the trim, and appears to be fitted with a paneled door. The door in the south bay is framed with narrow trim and lacks a backband; this opening is fitted with a batten door with the three battens mounted on the exterior face. A six-over-six window offset to left of center is framed with trim and backband that appear similar to the north door. Collectively, this evidence suggests the north door and center window were original, and the south door was a cut-down window opening, possibly opening at one time into a storage room at the south end of the missing porch.[3]

Today, the two doors have been replaced with windows, so three six-over-six windows are asymmetrically arranged on this façade. This arrangement works well with the interior plan—the southerly windows light the best room, and the northerly window, originally positioned to light the stair passage, now lights a modern bathroom. The siding, corner boards, and cornice date to the late-twentieth-century restoration. The siding is applied with 6 to 6½" exposure and a boldly proportioned 5/8" bead. The corner boards measure 1" by 3½" and are struck with a 3/8" bead; they are oriented so the broad dimension is on the gable end. The cornice is boxed with plain fascia and soffit, and utilizes no crown or bed mold. The present roof covering is asphalt shingle.

The brick chimney is centered on the south gable and is laid in 5:1 American bond on a stone foundation.

The shoulders corbel in seven courses and the shaft is topped with a decorative, four-course corbelled cap. The chimney has two flues that have been relined with ceramic flue tile. A stone retaining wall projects from the southeast corner of the chimney, creating a flat terrace just below the base of the first story. A six-panel door is located to the west of the chimney on the first story and a small four-light window is located to the east of the chimney in the upper gable. The siding, door and window trim match the restoration-period details of the east façade. The roof sheathing oversails at the gable eaves and is finished with a plain bargeboard.

On the north gable, another stone retaining wall extends from the northwest corner of the house for a distance of 7'-6", then turns 90 degrees to the east and runs parallel to the north gable wall. This wall is believed to relate to the hyphen that connected the Trone House to the Stage Coach Inn. The cellar wall of the Trone House is fully exposed on the north gable end, and there are no openings at cellar level. A single six-over-six window is centered on this elevation at first story and in the upper gable. The siding, trim and eave details match the south gable, which date to the restoration work.

FIGURE 7-4. *View from the southwest. Built into rising ground along the west side of Buckland Mill Road, the house had a commanding view of Broad Run and the Alexandria-Warrenton Turnpike.*

On the west elevation, the ground level is much higher, leaving 10" to 15" of the cellar foundation visible. There are three six-over-six windows on this elevation, arranged in the same asymmetrical bay system as on the east façade. The siding, trim and cornice match the east elevation and date to the restoration.

FIGURE 7-5. *Cellar fireplace, view facing south.*

Architectural Description: Interior

Today, the cellar story consists of a single large room, but more than likely it was originally partitioned into two rooms. This space is characterized by a mixture of plastered and exposed stone walls, a brick floor, and an exposed joist ceiling. The floor dates to the restoration and is paved with historic brick laid in a herring-bone pattern with mortar joints. A large fireplace is offset to west of center in the south wall. The fireplace measures 4'-1" wide by 2'-0" deep, and is topped with a heavy wooden lintel. This member is circular sawn, however, and presumably replaces an original lintel of similar proportions. The south wall of the cellar is exposed stone with repointed joints; the other three walls are plastered. Restoration-period trim includes the exterior door surround, window trim, and coat rails.

The ceiling framing is fully exposed and consists of hewn and pit-sawn joists laid on the east-west axis. A heavier girt marks the location of the principal partition on the first story (above). The joists measure 2½" to 3" wide by 8" to 8¼" deep, set on 21½" to 23" centers. The girt measures 7½" deep by 9" wide. Carpenter marks in the form of Roman numerals in the face of the girt indicate the locations of one stud and the pinned post for a door in the first-floor partition. Another pinned structural post is evident at the west end of the first-floor partition, although why it was needed at this location is not clear. The stair header and the first joist to the south of the girt were badly damaged by powder post beetles, and Tom Ashe replaced these two members with properly sized, circular-sawn timbers during the restoration project. Nail holes and lathing ghosts indicate that the cellar ceiling was plastered at

one time, and one lathing nail was located—a machine-made nail typical of the 1830s to the 1880s. The exposed ceiling also reveals that most of the flooring for the first floor is original, and is random-width with gauged edges, undercut on the bottom surfaces. A small section of floor in the northwest corner required replacement, which was done with closely matched material that is only distinguishable from below because it lacks the gauged edges.

A tight winder stair rises against the west wall near the northwest corner of the cellar room. A careful review of its construction indicates that the upper section is original and retains an early whitewash finish, while the lower portion was rebuilt during the restoration using early, salvaged material. Originally, this stair started in the northwest corner and ascended towards the south and east, as configured on the upper floors. As part of the restoration project, however, the first few steps were reversed, rising to the north from a position closer to the center of the west wall. This alteration opened up space in the northwestern part of the cellar, creating room for a modern kitchen and utilities. This also shifted the base of the stair to a location directly opposite the front door, creating a more rational plan for the cellar living space. A 3" by 3" post that serves as the center post for the winder stairs is original and is properly half-lapped to the ceiling joist, but has been relocated from the opposite side of the stair. It is now secured in place with a modern galvanized nail. The beaded sheathing that encloses the stair is primarily historic material, but includes at least two modern boards, carefully finished to blend with the early material.

FIGURE 7-6. *The cellar and stair, facing north. Originally, this space was probably partitioned into two rooms. The lower run of the cellar stair has been reversed to create enough room for utilities and a kitchen across the north end of the enlarged space.*

FIGURE 7-7. *View of cellar staircase from first-floor passage. The lower run of the cellar stair has been altered, but the upper run, the flanking partitions and the stair to the garret are original.*

The first story is partitioned to create a large, heated room to the south and a stair and stair passage to the north. The latter space has been modified in the twentieth century to create a bathroom across the east side of the stair passage. The south room most likely served as the parlor and certainly was the best room in the house. It is heated by a fireplace centered on the south gable wall, and a door to the right (west) of the fireplace provides direct access to the terrace that extends to the south of the building. The fireplace is fitted with a mantel that is a curious mix of stylish and plain details. Flat pilasters are applied to a beaded-board surround, and plain side blocks flank a plain frieze below an over-sized dentil course and plain shelf that breaks forward above the side blocks. A delicate, molded band extends across the base of the frieze and

breaks forward across the bases of the side blocks. This detail is quite elaborate and Federal in style, and contrasts with the otherwise plain details. The mantel shelf is clearly a later addition.

FIGURE 7-8. *First-floor parlor, facing south. The best room in the house, the parlor retains a late Federal mantel and a mixture of original and restored trim. The door to the right of the fireplace opens onto the south terrace.*

The exterior door in the south wall is in a position that conflicts with the normal use of corner braces, so it may be a later feature. The door is typical of the early nineteenth century, but appears to be an interior door that has been cut down to fit this door opening. The door has six panels, fully raised on the interior face and flat on the exterior face. It measures 2'-8" wide by 6'-7½" high, but the side stiles and top and bottom rails have been cut down to fit the present opening, as indicated by the unusually narrow dimensions of these members and the reduced dimensions of the pinned tenon joints. The door is hung on the same two-knuckle iron butt hinges found on the cellar entrance door, and lock scars indicate the door has been reversed; any earlier hinge scars would have been lost when the door was reduced in width. The baseboard in the south room appears to be early, measuring just 4" high with a diminutive ¼" bead; the chair board and the architrave trim for the windows and the south door are restoration-period, as indicated by chatter marks and wire finish nails.

A nearly identical door opens from the south room into the stair passage. This door measures 2'-10½" wide by 6'-2¼" high by 1" thick, and while it is hung on twentieth-century butt hinges and fitted with a nineteenth-century thumb latch, a patch indicates it had an earlier lock. This door opening retains early nineteenth-century architrave trim. The stair is enclosed with vertical beaded-board paneling, and the bathroom partition is constructed of similar material, but presumably salvaged from another house. The beaded-batten door at the top of the cellar stair is made from early material, but the mismatched battens and twentieth-century hinges suggest it was made or reworked as part of the restoration. An early nineteenth-century batten door with beveled battens opens onto the stair to the garret; it is hung on twentieth-century hinges but retains an early iron thumb latch. Although this opening is original, the lintel piece has been removed to accommodate the size requirements of a modern mattress and box spring. It is trimmed with reproduction backband trim. The beaded baseboard and window architraves in the stair passage and bathroom are also restoration-period material.

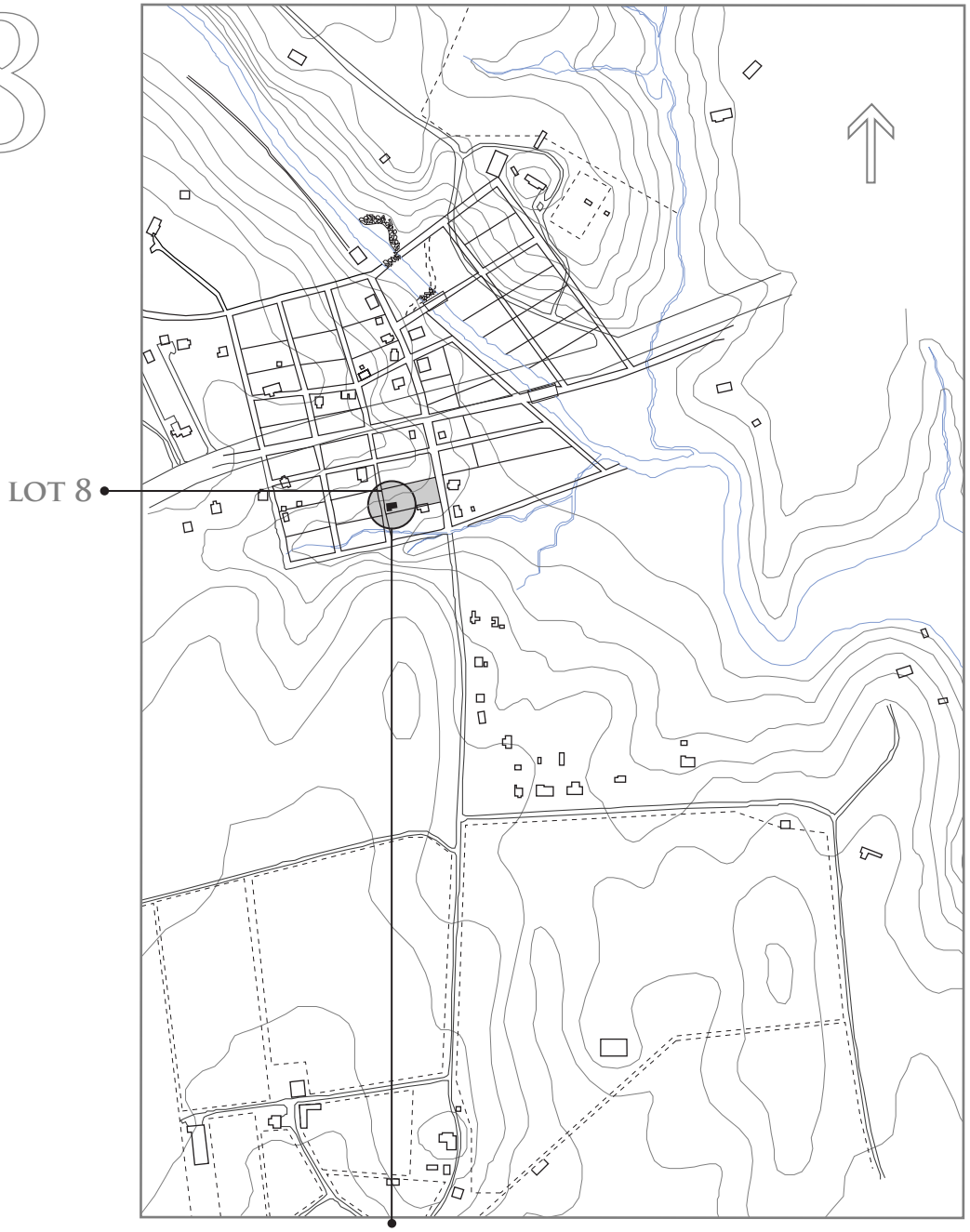
The garret consists of a single room with a small closet partitioned off in the northwest corner, using beaded board paneling salvaged by Tom Ashe from a house in West Virginia. Tom also indicated that he added the window that is centered in the north gable wall. The most significant feature of this room is the turned newel post at the top of the stair, which features late Federal details.

FIGURE 7-9. *Garret bedchamber, view facing south. The stair opening is guarded by a turned newel post and gracefully shaped railing.*

NOTES

[1] Laurie C. Wieder, ed. *Prince William: A Past to Preserve*, (Prince William County Historical Commission, 1998), p. 124.
[2] John Love sold Lot No. 6 to John S. Trone on June 8, 1825 for $75. Deed Book 10, folio 296-297.
[3] R. Jackson Ratcliffe, *This Was Prince William* (Leesburg, Virginia: Potomac Press, 1978), p. 71.

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE REPORT 8



Isaac Meeks House

Buckland Mill Road

ca. 1803; ca. 1870; mid twentieth-century




FIGURE 8-1. *View from southwest. The original 16' by 16' one-room house (the left section in this view) was constructed by George Britton in about 1803, part of the development of an extensive tanyard owned and operated by Isaac Meeks from 1809 through 1824 or 1825. The two-story frame section to the east (right) was added sometime after the Civil War using hewn-pole construction in a local vernacular version of balloon framing.*

Significance

The Isaac Meeks House was constructed by George Britton ca. 1803 as part of his development of a tanyard on the southern edge of Buckland in the years 1799-1803, eventually encompassing lots 8, 9 and 37. The core of this property was acquired by Isaac Meeks in 1809 and he operated the tanyard until 1824 or 1825. The original house, now the rear wing, is the only extant example of the small one-room houses that served as the most basic level of housing in Buckland in the first years of the town's development. Measuring just 16 feet square, the house still exceeded the minimum requirement placed on buyers of undeveloped lots by the Trustees of Buckland. To retain ownership, buyers were required to construct "a dwelling house equal to twelve feet square at least with a brick or Stone Chimney to be furnished fit for habitation within seven years."[1]

Significant features of the Meeks House include the large stone and brick chimney, original beaded weatherboard siding, deeply gauged flooring, and the whitewashed, exposed-joist ceiling. The original house holds significance in a much broader context as an example of the housing constructed to meet basic requirements for town formation, and as a rare survival of modest housing associated with the development of rural industry in Virginia and Maryland at the beginning of the nineteenth century. The two-story section to the east was added ca. 1870 and serves as one of at least six examples in Buckland of round pole framing, first documented at the Buckland Church in 1856, and favored in local building practice through the end of the nineteenth century.

Historical Summary

The Isaac Meeks House is located on the west side of Buckland Mill Road and south of Lee Highway in the town of Buckland, Virginia. The house stands on a sloping site that rises from the west bank of Broad Run on Lot No. 8 of the original town plan.[2] Isaac Meeks was a tanner, and operated a tannery on this lot from about 1809 until 1824 or 1825. Based on architectural evidence, the early part of the Isaac Meeks House dates prior to ca. 1815 and is a rare survival of a small, 16' by 16', one-room plan house—a prototype of the most basic housing called for in the original deeds executed by the Trustees of Buckland.[3]

A careful review of available tax assessments for Buckland sheds further light on the likely date of the house. Lot 8 was sold together with Lot 7 by the Town Trustees of Buckland on July 14, 1798, to Joseph Heale (also spelled "Hale"), for £24 lawful money of Virginia.[4] On November 15, 1799, Heale sold Lot 8 to George Britton for £12 current money of Virginia.[5] Tax assessments list George Britton as the owner for the period 1802 through 1806.[6] In 1802 and 1803, the assessment lists Britton as the owner of Lot 8, purchased "of Hale," but does not impose a tax on the property, indicating it is still undeveloped. In 1804, Lot 8 is assessed with a yearly rental value of $30, consistent with valuations for other lots in Buckland that are improved with houses.[7]

George Britton had purchased Lot 9, immediately to the south of Lot 8, directly from the Town Trustees on July 14, 1798, paying £12 Virginia Currency.[8] The price paid by Britton indicates this lot was undeveloped as well, but in May 1802 he sold Lot 9 to Peter Wise, Jr., for £100 Virginia money, a substantial premium.[9] The deed makes clear why the price had increased. Britton granted "Lot Number nine on which Lot is Erected a Tan Yard, vats and a house for the purpose of carrying on the Taning [sic] Business." Peter Wise is identified in the deed as "of Alexandria" and his interest in the tanyard was probably speculative; the following May he sold Lot 9 and the tanyard to James Foster, and in

November 1809, Foster sold the property to Isaac Meeks for the sum of $500 current money of Virginia.[10]

At this point, it is unclear when Meeks acquired the adjoining Lot 8, but he first appears as the owner of one undesignated lot in 1809, valued at $30 annual rent, matching the last known valuation of Lot 8 in 1806.[11] The following year, the listing for Meeks includes a second lot, acquired "of Foster" and, curiously, valued at the same $30 annual rent as the seemingly less valuable Lot 8. The 1813 tax includes a reference to Meeks as the owner of "1 Tanyard" and the 1818 and 1819 assessments note his place of residence as "on premises." The 1820 assessment is especially detailed, yet this list adds further confusion—Isaac Meeks is charged for just one Lot, No. 37, the lot valued at $1000 and an additional valuation of $400 for buildings, with an annual rental value of $150, easily the highest in the town. While further research is required, it seems likely that Meeks had also acquired lot 37, a relatively flat piece of property directly to the east across Mill Street, and that the assessment actually included as many as three lots, all functioning as a single tanning operation.

The sudden jump in the 1820 valuation may be an indication that Isaac Meeks made a significant investment in the operation in 1819-1820, but the low valuations in previous years seem more anomalous, and the 1820 tax assessment may simply have reflected an effort to value the property at a more realistic level than in previous years. Isaac Meeks did accumulate significant debts during this period, however, as recorded by three indentures. The first of these documents was executed on March 21, 1822, to secure a debt of $115.20 owed to "Henry Brooks and William Alexander (merchants & partners trading under the firm of Brooks & Alexander)." To secure this debt, Meeks conveyed title to a "Certain lot of land…in the town of Buckland…on which said lot the said Isaac Meeks has now a Tan yard know[n] by lot Number 8."[12]

The second indenture, dated July 4, 1822, secured a debt of $151 owed to John and James Hampton. The deed does not identify the property by lot number or provide a detailed property description, describing it simply as "my present dwelling house & lot attached to it."[13] On December 18, 1823, Isaac Meeks executed a third indenture to secure a debt of $80.45½. This instrument involves multiple parties, with some overlap of participants in the two previous agreements, and it may be a refinancing of the balance still owed from 1822. This debt is secured with a house and lot in the nearby town of Haymarket, and also includes "all the personal property of every description of which he the said Isaac Meek[s] is possessed his household and kitchen furniture all his stocks of Leather tan bark cow & horse."[14]

Based on the tax assessments for ensuing years, Meeks either died or, more likely, relinquished the property in 1824 or 1825.[15] The Buckland tax assessment for 1825 indicates that John White, a party to the 1823 indenture, had taken ownership of the property from Trustees for Meeks. The property passed through several ownerships over the ensuing decades but retained a high valuation until 1840, when the assessment dropped from $1200 to $200, but with no change in the annual rental value, at that point $80. Beginning with the 1851 assessment, the property is described as Lots 8 and 9, and the valuation is a constant $200 in 1851, 1860, 1861, and 1865. The next available assessment, in 1874, indicates the property had passed from John A. Francis to Thomas R. Love of Fairfax, and the assessed value jumped from $200 to $800.

A good deal of research remains to be done on this key property in Buckland, but based on the available evidence, it seems likely that the original, one-room frame house was constructed by George Britton ca. 1803, as part of his development of a tanyard located on Lots 8 and 9. Isaac Meeks probably acquired the house ca. 1807-1808 and in 1809 paid a premium price to acquire the tanyard operation on Lot 9. The dramatic increase in the valuation of 1820 coupled with debts recorded in 1822 and 1823 may be an indication that Meeks made significant improvements beginning in 1819; regardless of the source of debt, the tanyard passed out of his hands by 1825. Architectural evidence suggests the two-story frame section was added to the early, story-and-a-half house in the 1850s or later; Alfred Waud's panorama drawing of the town in October 1863 includes the early one-room house, unencumbered by the two-story addition. This evidence combined with the tax valuations indicates the expansion took place between 1865 and 1874. Most likely, the two-story addition was undertaken by Thomas Love following his acquisition of the property during that nine-year period—a transaction that should be verified by ongoing research.

FIGURE 8-2. *View from northwest. At 16 feet square, this one-room plan house exceeded by a comfortable margin the 12' by 12' minimum required to retain ownership of a Buckland lot.*

Architectural Description: Exterior

The Isaac Meeks House was constructed in two principal periods. The original house measures 16 feet square and is one-and-a-half stories, of frame construction on a stone cellar foundation. An exterior stone and brick chimney is centered on the east end of the steeply pitched gable roof. The house is oriented on an east-west axis, with the principal elevation oriented to the south. This structure is constructed of hewn and pit-sawn members with traditional heavy timber frame construction, using hand-forged nails typical of work dating prior to ca. 1815. Later in the nineteenth century, the original house was joined to a new, two-story frame house constructed adjacent to the east gable. Some improvements were made to the original structure at that time, and it became the service wing for the new, larger house.

In general appearance and finish, the second period of construction could date to the latter half of the nineteenth century, or even the early years of the twentieth century. However, the Meeks House is included in Alfred Waud's panoramic drawing of the Civil War battle that took place at Buckland in October 1863, and in this view the house is portrayed in its early, one-room form. The second-period house is constructed with mature, machine-made nails that pass out of favor in the 1880s and 1890s, offering some refinement of the likely period of construction. More significantly, however, the period II house is constructed using roughly flattened poles for the studs and rafters, a construction method found in Buckland in the third quarter of the nineteenth century. This style of construction was used for the Buckland Church, located just up the hill and built in 1856 by local builders Leslie Sanders and Thurston Brown. Similar work is found in the period II addition to the Dr. Brown House, in the later portion of the Buckland Post Office, and in the roof of the post-Civil War addition to the Richard Gill House. Thus the architectural evidence indicates that the second-period expansion of the Meeks House occurred in the decade or so following the Civil War, and may have been executed by local builders Sanders and Brown.

Today, the ground immediately surrounding the house is open, but the rest of Lot No. 8 is forested and overgrown with ground cover. No visible traces of the nineteenth century tannery or other early domestic outbuildings survive. A frame poultry house to the southwest of the house dates to the twentieth century and a plywood privy to the west post-dates World War II. Both are in poor condition. The house was purchased in recent years by Thomas J. Ashe, Jr. and some repair work has been undertaken to stabilize the building.

The original house is oriented on an east-west axis with the principal elevation facing south, parallel to Buckland Mill Road. The site slopes to the south and to the east, so the cellar foundation is fully exposed on the south side, but the cellar is quite shallow, so the foundation wall is only 4' to 5' above grade, constructed of rough local stone laid up with a buff-colored mortar that has significant clay content. The only entrance to the cellar is located at the west end of the south wall. The stone jambs of this broad, low opening have been reworked with Portland-based mortar and the frame and door are twentieth-century. The east portion of the foundation is coated with whitewash, suggesting an earlier porch configuration that was replaced when the house was enlarged.

At first-story level, there is a door to left of center and a small, four-over-four window to right of center. The door opening measures 2'-7" wide by 6'-8½" high, but the present door and frame are late twentieth-century replacements. The window opening measures 1'-8" wide by 3'-9¼" high; the four-light sashes are pinned and tenoned, with 8¼" by 10" panes set in 5/8" muntins. The sash is set in a frame struck with a ½" bead on the inner edge, which matches exactly the

frame of the exterior door in the west wall of the period II addition. The lapped siding on the south elevation of the original house dates to the second-period addition, replacing wide, beaded weatherboard siding that still survives on the east gable. This second period siding is ½" thick and 5 1/8" to 5¾" wide with 4 to 5" of exposure, nailed with mature, machine-made nails, and whitewashed.

FIGURE 8-3. *Detail of south elevation, protected by the rebuilt porch. The door in the left foreground opens into the 1803 house, while the door at the far end of the porch serves the post Civil War addition. A third door, partially concealed by the blue barrel, opens into a storage area, and reveals the masonry chimney and early beaded siding on the east end of the early house.*

This siding extends across the infill area that encloses the storage area adjoining the chimney, and it matches the siding found on the period II addition. A second door is located in this bay, opening into the unfinished storage space. This opening measures 2'-5" wide by 6'-6½" high. It is framed with plain, unbeaded trim laid flat, and fitted with a batten door. This door is constructed of four vertical boards ranging from 6½" to 8½" wide by 1" thick, struck with a ¼" bead and secured with two horizontal battens struck with ½" beads. The door is hung on a pair of 3" five-knuckle, cast-iron butt hinges and exhibits the ghost of a 3½" by 6" rim lock. While the lock is missing, the cast-iron keeper for a larger 4½" rim lock remains on the door jamb. The interior face of the door is inscribed with pencil notations and calculations, including two of particular interest. The earlier of these refers to a notable local event, while the second records a birth:

August 28th 92
211 negroes passed through
Buckland going to the church
on pike.

the colt was borned
May 6, 1913

The cornice on the south elevation was rebuilt in recent years, as was the entire porch. The roof is covered with corrugated metal sheeting. Remnants of wood shingles were recently found in the eaves of the attic, as well as hand-wrought shingle nails.

On the west gable elevation, a single four-over-four window is centered on the first story and a matching window is off-set to north of center in the upper gable. Two small cellar window openings pierce the stone foundation wall and are fitted with modern single-light sash. The first-story window frame matches the beaded frame of the window on the south elevation, while the frame of the upper window has been replaced. The window sashes for both openings are nineteenth century, with pinned, tenoned frames, but the muntin profiles and dimensions differ from the window on the south elevation. Most of the siding on this elevation, as well as the corner boards and rakeboards, date to the recent repairs.

FIGURE 8-4. *Chimney of period I house. The east gable of the Meeks House has been incorporated into the post Civil War addition, and is accessible from a storage area that serves as in-fill between the two buildings. Within this space, it is possible to examine the whitewashed masonry chimney and beaded weatherboard siding of the original house, as well as the hewn pole construction of the ca. 1870 addition.*

A single four-over-four window is centered on the north elevation. This window is larger, measuring 2'-4" wide by 4'-7½" high, with 12" by 12" panes, and is trimmed with a plain 2½" architrave and simple hood mold. The foundation on this elevation is barely visible at grade, and damage to the lower siding and sill reveal evidence for structural down braces at both ends of the wall. The whitewashed lap siding on this façade matches the period II siding found elsewhere on both sections of the house. The eave is boxed in with plain soffit and fascia.

The east gable elevation of the period I house is concealed by later construction, but this wall was encapsulated and retains most of the early fabric. The southern portion of the gable is readily accessible from an unfinished storage closet accessible from the south porch; the northern part of the gable survives but is concealed by later wall framing and finishes. This gable is dominated by the projecting chimney, which is brick on a stone foundation; much of the lower shaft has been rendered and the entire chimney is coated with whitewash. The siding on this elevation is original, and consists of random-width weatherboards, 1" thick and 7" to 11½" wide, with ciphered joints and ¼" beaded edges, secured with hand-wrought nails, and occasionally reinforced at a later date with machine-made nails. The ghost outline of the rakeboard is evident at the south gable eave. The corner of the masonry chimney is notched to create a pocket for the structural post that receives the siding, and the siding passes behind the face of the brick chimney.

FIGURE 8-5. *Cellar entry. Located at the west end of the south elevation, this doorway opens into a shallow, unheated cellar. Note the contrast between the exposed stone foundation at the west end of the foundation and the whitewashed stonework to the east, suggesting the size and location of an earlier and smaller porch predating the post Civil War addition.*

The period II house measures 16'-2" from east to west and 24'-8½" from north to south. The north gable of the addition is aligned with the north wall of the period I house to create an ell plan. The east elevation serves as the principal façade of the enlarged house, facing Buckland Mill Road and Broad Run. The period II house is of frame construction, originally supported on brick piers. These were later infilled with concrete block to create an enclosed cellar crawl space. The house is covered with the same whitewashed lap siding described on the period I house, and the shallow, pitched gable roof is now covered with asphalt shingles. This house does not have chimneys, but instead depends upon stove pipes joined to the chimney of the original house to heat the north room on each floor. A one-story, shed-roof porch extends across the east elevation.

On the east elevation, there is a door offset to south of center in the first story, flanked by single six-over-six windows on each side; three six-over-six windows are similarly placed at second-story level. The door and window trim has been removed, but wire nails from that trim indicate it had been replaced in the twentieth century, possibly at the time that brick-pattern tarpaper was applied over all or much of the siding. The door has also been replaced. The present door has five horizontal panels, typically a form used for interior locations, and is hung on twentieth-century butt hinges and fitted with a stamped metal lock and knob. The six-light window sash is tenoned and pinned, with 9" by 12" panes. Siding is ½" thick and 5¾" wide, with 4½" to 5" exposure, applied with machine-made nails; circular-saw marks are evident on the back face of the siding. The corner boards are plain, 1" by 3 7/8", and are painted a rich blue to contrast with the whitewashed siding. The eave is boxed in with plain soffit and fascia and no applied moldings.

A piece of missing siding at the south end of this wall reveals that the corner post is a circular-sawn framing member, while the studs are rough 5" diameter poles, flattened on two faces to receive the siding and interior plaster lath. As noted above, similar framing is found in several other buildings in Buckland, in all but one case dating to the third quarter of the nineteenth century. The shed-roof porch has been extensively rebuilt, but retains early or possibly original circular-sawn 2" by 4" roof framing and 4" by 4" front plates. The deck, railings, and posts are late twentieth century, and the porch roof is sheathed with plywood, leaving

in place one whitewashed piece of 1" by 6" sheathing from the earlier roof.

A single six-over-six window with 12" by 12" panes is centered in the north gable elevation at first and second-story level. The siding matches the front elevation and the gable eaves are trimmed with plain, untapered rakeboards. On the south gable, a six-over-six window is located in the west bay of the first story. A small door opening in the concrete block infill of the foundation serves as access to the cellar crawl space. This opening measures 2'-7" wide and 3'-9¾" high and is fitted with a recycled beaded batten door. The siding and rakeboard details match the north gable elevation, but here are found remnants of a later application of brick-pattern, roll tarpaper, applied with wire nails.

The northern portion of the west elevation of the period II house is concealed from view by the period I wing, but much of this wall can be examined from the unfinished storage closet that opens onto the south porch. The southern 8'-3" of the west elevation is exposed to view, and a door opens at first story level onto the porch; a two-over-two window is located above the door at second-story level. The door opening measures 2'-8½" wide by 6'-7" high and is trimmed with the same ½" beaded frame used for the east window of the period I house. This opening is fitted with a beaded batten door constructed of five vertical boards, 6¼" to 6½" wide and struck with a ½" bead, secured with beaded battens on the interior face.

FIGURE 8-6. *Fireplace, first floor of period I. The fireplace is smaller than would be expected for a chimney of this size, but the exposed portion of the chimney shows no evidence of alterations.*

The framing of the west wall is visible where protected by the junction with the period I wing. As indicated by a more limited view on the front elevation, the framing is a mix of circular-sawn timbers and flattened 5" diameter pole studs. The principal members are all properly dressed, but the studs are much cruder, and run continuously the full two-story height of the wall. Ribbon plates (1" by 6") are let into the interior face of the wall studs and the second floor joists (2" to 2½" by 8") are notched over the ribbon plates. This method of framing can be traced to the development of balloon framing in the late 1830s, but is a practice rarely seen in Virginia and Maryland until after the Civil War.

Architectural Description: Interior

The first story of the original house consists of a single room with fireplace on the east wall and an enclosed winder stair in the southwest corner. The fireplace is surprisingly small considering the size of the chimney stack. While it may have been altered, there is no obvious evidence of an earlier, larger opening, although this could be concealed by twentieth-century wallboard. The fireplace opening measures 3'-6" wide by 1'-2" deep by 2'-4" high, with a splayed brick jack arch supported by a wrought-iron lintel. There is no visible evidence of crane hooks or a trammel bar. The face of the fireplace is coated with whitewash and plaster survives, starting seven courses above the jack arch. The plaster is intermittent and does not have a crisp edge to indicate a mantel piece; nailing blocks for a mantel are also lacking.

The winder stair is enclosed with whitewashed, random-width vertical boards (9" to 10¾"), struck with a ¼" bead and tongue-and-groove joints. The stair starts with four winder steps supported by a 3¼" square post, and then continues in a straight run against the west gable wall. It is relatively narrow and steep, measuring 2'-4½" wide with eleven risers 9½" high, and 9¾" treads. The skirting boards are beaded and are secured with hand-forged T-head nails. The batten door that opens onto the stair measures 2'-4½" wide by 6'-6" high and is positioned one step up from the floor. It is constructed of three random-width boards (8¼" to 10½") with butt joints and a ¼" bead, joined with three horizontal battens, 6½" wide with all four edges beveled. The door is hung on hand-forged HL hinges (7" high) secured with wrought nails. The ghost of a 4"

by 4" rim lock on the room face of the door is outlined in the whitewash finish. A small storage closet under the stair is lined with narrow, manufactured bead-board, but the right jamb of the door opening retains the original, beaded trim piece with ghosts from a pair of 2¾" butt hinges. Mortises at the top of this door opening define the location of the beaded lintel.

FIGURE 8-7. *Stair in southwest corner of period I house. A tightly proportioned winder stair provides access to the garret of the original house. The plaster within the stair enclosure is applied to circular-sawn lathing, an indication of improvements made after 1850, most likely when the east addition was constructed ca. 1870.*

FIGURE 8-8. *Door to winder stair. The beaded batten door is hung on 7" hand-forged HL hinges secured with hand-wrought nails.*

Original flooring survives across the west and north side of the first floor, concealed by linoleum but visible from the cellar. This flooring is random in width and depth and has been gauged with a drawknife and undercut as much as 1½" at the joists, an extreme example of this detail. The original wall finish of the first floor room is difficult to ascertain without removing the twentieth-century wallboard that has been applied to all four walls and the ceiling. The ceiling joists are visible from the attic and are plain, unbeaded members heavily coated with whitewash and a later application of gray paint. Wall framing is visible in the stair well, but here there is no whitewash, and the plaster is applied to circular-sawn lathing secured with machine-made nails. It seems likely that the framing in this secondary space was left exposed and without whitewash, while the first-floor room was either whitewashed or plastered at an early date, and the plaster in the stairwell is part of an upgrade undertaken when the house was enlarged after the Civil War. The only trim of any consequence on the first floor is plain 4" baseboard on the north and west walls, and on the western part of the south wall. Door and window trim is plain, and the south door frame is entirely replaced with late twentieth-century material.

FIGURE 8-9. *View of garret, facing east from the top of the stairs. The loft was floored but otherwise unfinished initially. Sometime after 1850, the gable ends were plastered all the way to the peak of the roof using circular-sawn lathing applied with mature cut nails. Even with this improvement, the roof frame was not upgraded with either whitewash or plaster. The sash-sawn, common-rafter pairs are set at 48 degrees, half-lapped at the ridge and nailed with hand-forged nails. Each pair is reinforced with an original collar tie, half-lapped and nailed to the rafters with hand-forged nails. Original nailers for a wood shingle covering survive on the north (left) plane of the roof but have been replaced to the south.*

The garret originally was unfinished except for a floor; later, the gable ends were plastered. The floor is

laid with random-width planks 8" to 12½" wide by 1" thick with tongue-and-groove edges, face-nailed with hand-forged T-head nails. The roof is constructed of common rafter pairs set at a 48-degree pitch and joined at the ridge with half-lap joints secured with two hand-forged nails and reinforced with collars that are half-lapped and nailed with a single wrought nail. The rafters are 2½" wide and 3" deep, with no taper; the collars are 1½" to 2" wide and 2¾" to 3" deep. Where saw marks are visible, both collars and rafters are sash-sawn. The rafter pairs are supported on 1" by 9" false plates, which in turn are nailed to the floor joists, which measure 2½" to 2¾" wide and 6¼" to 6¾" deep. Original nailers survive on the north side of the roof; these are 1" by 2¾", with approximately 3" gaps between them, indicating the original roof was wood shingle. Fragments of early shingles were recovered from this attic recently, as well as a hand-forged shingle nail. Hand-forged, spade-point nails are still evident, protruding through the nailers. On the south face of the roof, most of the early nailers have been replaced with circular-sawn, random-width planks, presumably dating to the present corrugated metal sheeting. The attic space was never whitewashed, and initially lacked any plaster as well. However, when the house was enlarged after the Civil War, the gable ends of the garret were plastered all the way up to the peak of the roof, using circular-sawn lathing secured with machine-made nails.

FIGURE 8-10. *Garret flooring and framing. Random-width, tongue-and-groove flooring survives across part of the garret, secured with hand-forged T-head nails. Traces of whitewash and fireplace soot are evident on the first floor ceiling joists, which were exposed until the post Civil War period or later. The present ceiling is gypsum board, post-dating World War II.*

The cellar under the period I house is quite low, with just 4'-10" of headroom between the dirt floor and the ceiling joists, and was used only for storage. There is no fireplace at this level, and the floor is interrupted on the north side by a ragged outcrop of bedrock. The ceiling joists run north-south and are sash-sawn; they measure 2¾" to 3¾" wide and 6½" to 7" deep.

FIGURE 8-11. *View of cellar, period I. The cellar provides just 4'-10" of clearance, and was never heated, indicating it was used for food storage rather than as domestic space. The flooring overhead varies considerably in thickness and has been gauged with a drawknife and undercut by as much as 1½" at the joists.*

The period II house is oriented to the east, and consists of two principal rooms on each floor. On the first floor, the front door opens into the southerly room, which measures 11'-5" from north to south and 15'-5" deep. The stair rises against the north wall of this room, however, so the useable width is only 8'-11". The base of the stair is directly in front of the front door, and it rises against the north wall in a straight run, screened off from the room by a lightly built wallboard partition. A closet is located under the stair, and a door in the rear or west wall opens onto the south porch. The north room is larger, measuring 12'-3" north to south and 15'-5" deep, and is heated by a small "Quaker" brand heater served by a stove pipe connection to the chimney of the period I house. A door in the northwest corner of this room provides access to the earlier west wing.

This house has been through one major period of renovation in the twentieth century, and some work was undertaken by Tom Ashe in recent years. Original plaster has been removed in the south room, revealing circular-sawn lathing installed with mature, machine-made nails. In the north room, the plaster had been stripped previously, and the walls are finished with gypsum wallboard. There are two periods of trim as

well. The original architrave trim measures 4½" wide with a ½" bead; later trim is plain with no bead. Early doors include a four-panel door in the north room and a beaded batten door in the south room. The latter door is constructed with screws rather than nails, and is fitted with a small rim lock marked "SARGENT MADE IN USA." The baseboard is 5" high and is not beaded; the floors are covered with linoleum.

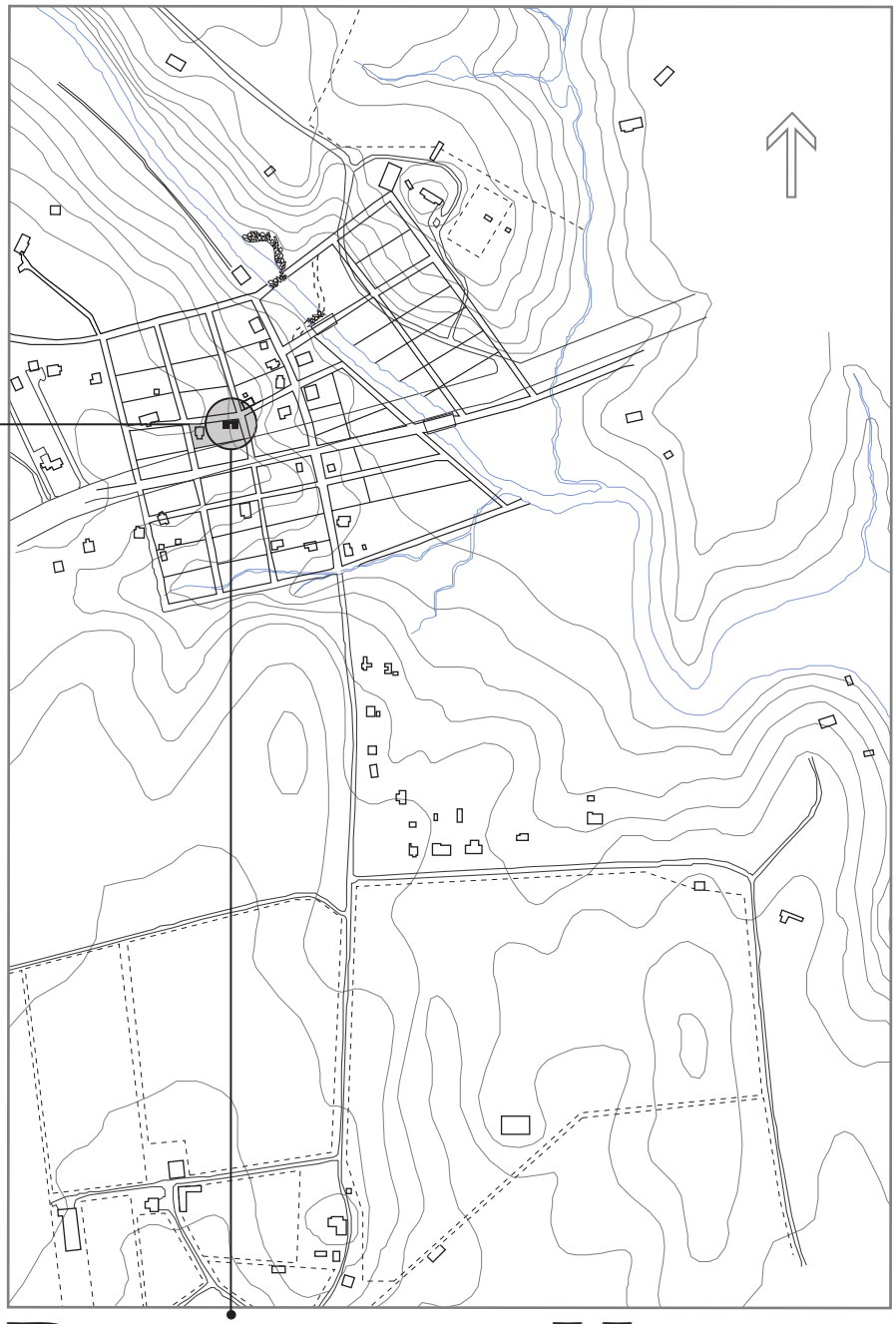
The second story is similarly arranged, with the stair rising to a small lobby between the two bed chambers--a narrow room to the south, and a larger, heated room to the north. A closet opens onto the south side of the north room, created out of the space above the staircase. The plaster has been stripped in this room, revealing the same circular-sawn lathing and nails found downstairs; the south room plaster was replaced with gypsum board earlier in the twentieth century. Early beaded architrave trim survives on the interior door openings but the window trim is plain and lacks any bead. Batten doors are constructed with screws, as on the first floor. The flooring is concealed by linoleum but is visible from below where ceiling plaster has been removed. The flooring is 3½" to 5" wide and circular-sawn on the unplanned surface.

The attic is sealed and was never accessible as a functional space, but a limited view is possible through a hole in the second-story ceiling. The roof is framed like the Buckland Church, using common rafter pairs made of pole rafters that are mitered and nailed at the ridge. These are supported on flat false plates which are nailed to the 2" by 6" ceiling joists.

NOTES

[1] Trustees of Buckland to Joseph Heale, Lots 7 and 8, July 14, 1798, Prince William County Deed Book Z, folio 386-388.
[2] The designation of this site as Lot 8 is based on the overlay map of Buckland prepared by C. Allan Brown in 2004 for the Buckland Preservation Society. A review of currently available documentary research and tax assessments for Buckland indicates that Lots 8 and 9 eventually were treated for tax purposes as a single lot.
[3] This language, cited in the opening paragraph, was included in every deed executed by the Trustees of Buckland. It would appear that lot owners who did not comply relinquished legal title, and the land evidently reverted back to John Love.
[4] Trustees of Buckland to Joseph Heale, July 14, 1798, Deed Book Z, folio 386-388.
[5] Joseph Heale to George Britton, November 15, 1799, Deed Book 1, folio 248.
[6] Tax assessments of Buckland have been located for the years 1799-1804, 1806, 1809-44; as well as for seven years during the period 1846-1877. These have been transcribed by David Blake for the Buckland Preservation Society.
[7] For example, the 1801 assessment charges George Britton with "3 Houses & Lotts in Buckland No. 2 $50, No. 32 $20, No. 48 $18 Rents."
[8] Trustees of Buckland to George Britton, July 14, 1798, Deed Book 2, folio 27-28.
[9] George Britton to Peter Wise, Jr., May 24, 1802, Deed Book 2, folio 79.
[10] Peter Wise sold the property to James Foster on May 13, 1803; the transaction is cited in Foster's 1809 sale. James Foster to Isaac Meeks, November 29, 1809, Deed Book 2, folio 69-70.
[11] The following discussion of tax assessments is based on a preliminary review of records collected and transcribed by David Blake. Further analysis of these records will require completion of title histories for the lots in question.
[12] Isaac Meeks of the first part to John W. Tyler of the second part and Henry Brooks and William Alexander of the third part, March 21, 1822, Deed Book 8, folio 351-352.
[13] Isaac Meeks of the first part to William Hunton of the second part and John and James Hampton of the third part, July 4, 1822, Deed Book 8, folio 213.
[14] Isaac Meeks of the first part to John White of the County of Fauquier of the second part and John and James Hampton and John W. Tyler of the third part, December 18, 1823, Deed Book 9, folio 36.
[15] The Meeks association persists for at least a few more years after he relinquished ownership. In a deed for the nearby "Watson Lot" includes a reference in the property description to "Meeks's tan yard." See Andrew J. Watson to Thomas Smith, November 19, 1829, Deed Book 12, folio 46.

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE REPORT 9



Ned Destiller House

16208 Lee Highway

ca. 1819; mid 19th-century; 1988-1990




Figure 9-1. *View from northeast. The early house is a "true" story-and-a-half, in which the wall framing extends up into the garret story, providing more space and eliminating the need for kneewalls. A rebuilt one-story wing now serves as a hyphen to the 1980s addition in the back-*

Significance

The Ned Distiller House is believed to date to ca. 1819, constructed by a free African American whose name indicates he was a skilled worker at the Buckland distillery. The house is representative of a type that enjoyed particular favor in the first quarter of the nineteenth century—a true story-and-a-half frame structure with a side-passage, single-parlor plan. Ned Distiller is listed in the 1810 census for Buckland and in 1811 or 1812 acquired the lot, improved by a kitchen structure built by Francis Hawley in 1800. Indentures filed in 1821 are likely related to the cost of constructing the present house, and one of these documents provides a rare glimpse of the possessions of a free African American household in the 1820s. Ned Distiller was able to meet his financial obligations and retained possession of the house and lot until the late 1840s. This house is an extremely rare, early example of a dwelling that can be linked through documentary evidence to a free African American, a skilled artisan and member of a small but vibrant free black community in Buckland in the first half of the nineteenth century.

History

This small frame house stands on the northeast corner of Lot No. 13 in the original town plan of Buckland. This lot was sold by John and Elizabeth Love on November 1, 1800 to Francis Hawley for £40.[1] The price paid is substantially more than the usual charge of £6 to £12 for an undeveloped lot, indicating the property was already improved.[2] This conclusion is confirmed by the deed, which describes the property as "all that Tenement Lott or parcel of Ground whereon the said Francis Hawley has his new Kitchen lying and being in the Town of Buckland…Number Thirteen."[3] The 1801 tax assessment for Francis Hawley also makes reference to a "New Kitchen," worth $25 in rent, as a separate item in addition to a "House & Lot," worth $50 in rent.[4] Local historians have concluded that Francis Hawley constructed the house that now stands on this lot, but the tax assessments for 1803, 1804, and 1806 seem to indicate Hawley owned two lots in Buckland, and that Lot 13 may have been improved solely by a kitchen building during those years.[5]

While much of the early frame of the present building is concealed by siding and plaster dating to the late twentieth-century restoration of the house, photographs taken during that project provide highly useful illustrations of key details.[6] The two-room plan and true-story-and-a-half form are most favored in the first quarter of the nineteenth century, and nails found in the staircase and flooring are L-headed cut brads (seemingly with same-side shear burrs) that could date as early as the turn of the nineteenth century and are common through the 1810s. The only other nails readily accessible for view are those used to secure the gable studs above the collars in the unfinished attic. These are machine-headed cut nails of a type frequently found in Virginia in the 1810s and 1820s. A small frame wing at the north end of the west elevation was originally constructed of board-and-batten siding applied to a heavy timber frame, and heated by a stove chimney on the west gable wall—a combination of features typically found in the 1850s and later. With this complicated architectural evidence in mind, a careful review of the available documentary evidence offers some insights into the possible developmental sequence of the site.

Francis Hawley vanishes from the tax lists after 1806, but in the 1820 tax list, Lot 13 is in the possession of "Ned Stiller of Colour." The lot is valued in that year at $130 and the building improvements are valued at $100, together worth $40 in rent.[7] "Ned Stiller" was a free African American also known in the Prince William County records as "Ned Distiller" and "Distiller Ned," presumably an indication of Ned's employment in the Buckland distillery.[8] He first appears on the tax lists in 1812 as "Ned Distiller," charged for "1 lot…$20." In

subsequent years, the tax list refers to him as Ned Stiller, with the same cryptic description of the property and $20 valuation.[9] The 1820 tax list is unusually detailed, and the higher valuations starting in that year seem to indicate that a significant improvement had been made to Lot 13 in the preceding year. Construction of a house in 1819 may also explain two indentures executed in 1821 in which "Distiller Ned" secured debts totaling $195 by pledging his house, lot, and a remarkable array of livestock and household goods. The first of these, dated March 20, 1821, is for $120. An
excerpt from this document states:

> This Indenture made and entered into this 20th day of March 1821 between Distiller Ned of the first part, Wm. E. Alexander of the second part and Jno. & James Hampton of the third Part Witnesseth, that the said Distiller Ned being anxious to secure to the said Jno. & James Hampton the payment of one hundred and twenty dollars or thereabouts which to them he justly owes and for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar to the said Distiller Ned in hand paid…hath granted bargained and sold…unto the sd. Wm. E. Alexander his heirs and assigns for ever one sorrel mare, one horse, two Cows, one Steer, one Sow and four Shoats, two hogs in the pen, one horse Cart, two Shovel plows with Coulters & Stocks, two Cary plows and Stocks, one narrow axe one Broad axe, two pair of wedges and drawing knife, one Frow, one hand saw, two grubbing hoes, three broad hoes, six barrels Corn, four hundred pounds bacon, one Saddle and bridle, two pair plow gear, one half bushel, two iron pots, two Ovens, one wash tub, two piggins, One Bucket, one feather Bed and furniture. To Have and to Hold the said property to the said Wm. E. Alexander his heirs and assigns for ever. In Trust, Nevertheless for the purposes herein after mentioned that if the said Distiller Ned shall well and truly pay to the said Jno. & James Hampton the aforesaid sum of money when hereunto req[uire]d then this deed of trust to be void, but if the said Distiller Ned shall fail to pay the said sum as aforesaid then it shall be the duty of the said Wm. E. Alexander when required by the said Jno. & James Hampton…to Sell the aforesaid property to the highest bidder and appropriate the proceeds of said sale first in discharge of the costs of this deed and then satisfy and pay to the said Jno. & James Hampton the amount of their claim aforesaid, refunding whatever balance may be, to the said Distiller Ned.[10]

A second indenture, executed on June 4, 1821, relates to a debt of $75 that was originally due on January 1, 1820, and in this case was secured with Lot No. 13 and a house thereon. The relevant portion of this document follows:

> This Indenture made and entered into this 4th day of June 1821 between Distiller Ned of the 1st part, Jonathan Ross of the second part and Richard Gill of the third part. Witnesseth that the said Distiller Ned, being desirous to secure the payment of a note amounting to seventy five $ due 1st Jany 1820 Subject to a Credit of three $ pd Feby 1820 & twenty $ pd 27 Apr 1820 together with legal interest thereon and whatever Costs may have accrued by reason of a suit instituted on the said note in the County Court of Prince William & for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar to the said Distiller Ned in hand paid by the said Jonathan Ross the rect. whereof he doth hereby acknowledge hath granted bargained sold & conveyed…unto the said Jonathan Ross a certain House and Lot in the Town of Buckland No. thirteen eighty feet on Fayette Street an[d] one hundred & eighty feet on Elizabeth Street. To have and to hold the said House & Lot to him the sd Jonathan Ross his heirs and assigns forever. In Trust nevertheless for the purposes herein after mentioned. Now if the said Distiller Ned shall proceed to pay the amt. of said note with the interest & costs aforesaid to the said Richard Gill whenever thereunto required by the said Richd. Gill then this deed to be void, but if the said Distiller Ned shall neglect to do so when req[uire]d as aforesd. then it shall be the duty of the said Jonathan Ross whenever required by the said Richd. Gill to proceed (after legally advertising) to sell the House & Lot before named to the highest bidder for cash and out of the proceeds of such sale the said Ross shall first satisfy & pay the Costs of this deed. Secondly he shall pay to the sd. Richd. Gill the amt. of the note aforesaid with all the interest & Cost aforesaid, & the balance if any he shall refund to the said Distiller Ned…[11]

While these debts may have been incurred for any number of reasons, such substantial sums are consistent with the cost of constructing a new house, and the architectural evidence is a good fit as well. Ned Distiller evidently was able to fully satisfy the debt secured by his property and possessions, as he continued to appear in the annual tax assessments through 1846; by 1851 Lot 13 had passed to Samuel Mooney, who can be traced through the assessment of 1877, the last year for which these records are currently accessible. The valuation assigned to the lot and improvements varies little during Ned's post-1820 ownership, but does roughly double between Ned's final listing in 1846 and the 1851 assessment charged to Samuel Mooney. Pending further research, it seems fair to assume that the surviving house is associated with this skilled, free African American, and the list of goods in the 1821 indenture suggests a fully developed household with a significant investment in livestock and farming implements.

The house was in advanced decline by 1980 when it was purchased by the present owners, Bill and Rose Hazel. The Hazels launched a restoration of the house in 1988, completing the work three days before Thanksgiving Day in 1990. Among a multitude of important clues to the structure's age and level of finish, the Hazels found remnants of early beaded weatherboard siding, one intact nine-over-six window in the south bay of the west façade, and possibly ghost evidence for a modillion block cornice. An early wood shingle roof survived under a twentieth-century metal roof. The stone chimney was reconstructed to conform to remnant evidence found by the Hazels; the hearth size and position were based on seams in the floor. The west wing was demolished and rebuilt, retaining the original stove chimney, and a new frame section was constructed to the west, providing modern amenities and an additional bedchamber. Finish details were hand-planed by local carpenter Gary Gillian.[12]

Architectural Description: Exterior

The Ned Distiller House is a small frame dwelling on a stone foundation, located on the northeast corner of Lot 13. The principal elevation faces east across Fayette Street, and the north gable is aligned with Elizabeth Street. The house measures 16'-1½" from east to west and 26'-3½" from north to south. It is a "true" story-and-a-half form, meaning the side walls project above the second-story floor level by approximately three feet, eliminating the need for knee walls in the garret story. This form is relatively rare prior to about 1800, but gains favor thereafter because of the increased space at garret level. This advantage can be demonstrated by the height of the side walls—the east elevation wall measures 12'-9" from the top of the foundation to the base of the cornice.

Figure 9-2. *East elevation. Framing evidence indicates the north (right) window marks the location of the original front entrance, which opened into a generously proportioned stair passage to the north with adjoining parlor to the south. The restored nine-over-six windows are based on sash found in the south bay of the west elevation.*

The house has a two-room plan, with a large heated room to the south and a smaller, unheated room to the north. The latter room serves as the stair passage, but is of sufficient size to also provide useful living space. Typically, this arrangement would include a door at both ends of the passage, so that the east elevation should have a door in the north bay and a window or windows to the south. While the present fenestration consists of two nine-over-six windows in the east elevation, one lighting each first floor room, the Hazels found evidence to indicate that the northerly window replaces an original door.

The house rests on a continuous stone foundation that was repointed in 1988 using a buff-colored mortar and plain joints. The siding and trim also date to the restoration. An original beaded weatherboard was discovered during the restoration, but the current material is plain, with a lap joint and 4½" to 4¾" exposure. It is weathered and has paint build-up, but is applied with wire nails. Filled, vacant nail holes indicate the siding has been taken off and reapplied, and variant spacing of those nail holes indicates that much of the siding was

salvaged from another building. This is confirmed by the current owners, who recall that the siding was salvaged from a nearby house. The corners are trimmed with 1" by 3" corner boards with a beaded edge planed into rough finish stock. The window frames, sash, paneled shutters, and trim date to 1988-90. The modillion block cornice also dates to the restoration, and is said to be based on ghost evidence found by the carpenter. The square-butt shingle roof dates to 1988 and is based on evidence found under the more recent roof of standing-rib metal sheeting.

On the north gable, a single nine-over-six window is centered on the first story and a six-over-six window is centered in the upper gable. The foundation, siding, window and trim details match the front façade and date to 1988-1990. The gable eaves are finished with tapered rakeboards with an applied band of molding.

FIGURE 9-3. *South gable and west elevation, viewed from the southwest.*

Prior to 1988, photographs indicate an interior chimney was centered on the south gable, with a four-panel door in the east bay and a window with mismatched salvage sash in the west bay; two small two-over-two windows flanked the chimney in the upper gable. Mrs. Hazel recalls that they found evidence that the first-floor window had been cut in, interrupting the bracing for the corner post. The door in the east bay is also likely to be a later feature as it, too, is positioned in close proximity to the corner post, and would require eliminating another key brace. Prior to 1988, a one-story, shed-roof porch extended across this end of the house.

In 1988 the Hazels demolished the porch and reconstructed the chimney as an exterior stack, basing that decision on architectural evidence. The four-panel door was replaced with a salvaged six-panel door hung on hand-forged HL hinges and secured with an antique iron rim lock purchased for the project. The salvage sash of the west window was replaced with nine-over-six sash, and each second-story opening was reconfigured with a single nine-light sash mounted as a casement on hand-forged strap hinges. The foundation, siding, window details, and trim match the east and north elevations.

The west wing conceals the northern portion of the west elevation. A door in the north bay probably served originally as an exterior door, and since the mid-nineteenth century has provided access to the wing. A nine-over-six window in the south bay is based on original sash that survived in this location.

FIGURE 9-4. *First-floor parlor, facing south.*

Architectural Description: Interior

The interior of the original house consists of two rooms on each floor. On the first floor, the south room measures 15'-3" from east to west and 15'-7" from north to south, while the north room measures 15'-2" by 9'-5½". The smaller room to the north traditionally served as the stair passage, but today, with the east door converted to a window, the room also functions as useful living space. The stair rises as a winder in the northwest corner of this room, and then continues as a straight run against the north gable. A window centered in the north gable wall straddles the stair carriage, providing light to the room and to the stair. The stair is enclosed with

beaded vertical boards, 8" to 11½" wide with tongue-and-groove edges and a ½" bead. The post against which the stair winds measures 3" by 4" in section and is richly finished with deep chamfers that run out to plain stops. It is tenoned into the floor at the base and is half-lapped to a ceiling joist at the top. The stair stringers are sash-sawn and are cut to profile instead of relying on the older method of cleat construction to carry treads and risers. A low batten door (dating to 1988) in the east face of the stair enclosure provides access to the crawl space under the floor.

FIGURE 9-5. *First-floor parlor, facing north to stair passage.*

The ceiling joists are exposed in the north room, and a 1988 photograph indicates that the floorboards above them originally were exposed as well and whitewashed. The joists are hewn and pit sawn, measure 2¾" by 7½", and are set on 17" to 19½" centers. They are not eased, chamfered or molded in any fashion. Other framing details may be determined from the crawl space and from photographs taken in 1988. The north gable sill, visible from the crawl space, is hewn and measures 8" deep by 9" wide. The first-floor joists are rough sleepers, 6" to 7" in diameter and hewn flat on the top surface. Photographs taken in 1988 indicate that the walls are framed with L-section corner posts and with T-plan posts at the junctions of the interior partition.

A door in the center of the interior partition opens into the south room. This room is heated by the reconstructed fireplace centered on the south gable wall. Seams in the flooring are the evidence used to determine the position for the present chimney. This fireplace may also have had a cast-iron fireback, based on a fragment found on the site by the Hazels. The flooring is yellow pine, 5" to 6½" wide, face-nailed with plain, butted edge-joints. A seam in the northwest corner of the room had raised questions as a possible stair location, but it is merely 20" from the interior partition wall and instead seems to be a routine seam in the flooring that did not align with a nearby partition. The baseboard and architrave trim date to the restoration. While no chair board was found at the time of the restoration on the first floor, chair board is visible in the photographs of the second-story rooms, and it would be unlikely that this feature was omitted in the public rooms of the house.

FIGURE 9-6. *Stair passage, facing east. As originally configured, the front door was located in the east end of the passage, and later was altered to a window. The winder stair rises from the northwest corner of the room against the north gable to bedchambers on the second story.*

The second story originally was partitioned into two spaces. The north room was slightly larger, measuring 13'-3" from north to south and 15'-3" from east to west. However, this room contains the stair and

in 1988 a modern bathroom was added across its west side. The south room measures 12'-3½" from north to south and 15'-3½" from east to west. This room is heated by a rebuilt fireplace, while the north room originally was not heated. The hearth stone used for this reconstructed fireplace was found in the rubble of the early chimney in 1988. The flooring in the second story is 11" to 15" wide, has tongue-and-groove joints, and is face nailed with L-head cut brads.

FIGURE 9-7. *Stair detail. The enclosed winder stair wraps around a structural post that is handsomely chamfered.*

The interior partition is constructed of beaded vertical boards, 7" to 16" wide with tongue-and-groove edges and a 3/8" bead. The door opening is framed with reproduction trim. The partition boards are nailed to the north face of a horizontal tie beam that runs across the room, tying the side walls together. The bottom edge of this beam is 5'-11" above the floor, and the door opening fits beneath it, centered on the partition. Baseboard, chair board, and architrave trim on the second story date to the 1988-1990 restoration, but photographs taken in 1988 indicate a one-piece chair board with beaded edges was found in both rooms. Also noteworthy is a newel post at the top of the staircase in the north room. This post runs from floor to ceiling and is chamfered above the handrail. A more elaborate version of the same detail is found on the secondary stair at nearby Buckland Hall.

FIGURE 9-8. *Second-story partition and tie beam from south bedchamber. The substantial tie beam visible just above the door serves as an important structural member. It is secured to a pair of rafters that are more robustly proportioned than the rest of the roof, providing added strength near the center points of the side walls. The partition between the chambers is constructed with beaded vertical boards that range up to 16" in width.*

A small hatch in the ceiling of the south room permits access to the crawl space above the collar ties. The roof is constructed of common rafter pairs set at a 40-degree pitch. The rafters are made of oak and perhaps chestnut. They vary considerably in size, some as small as 2¼" by 2½", but the norm being about 2½" by 3". The gable-end pairs and the pair over the upper-floor partition are larger—the latter pair being directly over the tie that holds the story-and-a-half walls together. These rafters measure about 4" by 5". With one exception all rafters are hewn and pit-sawn and are joined at the ridge with pinned mortise-and-tenon joints (one of the gable-end rafters is made from hewn and sash-sawn stock). Collar beams reinforce the rafter pairs and serve as ceiling joists for the second-floor chambers. The collars are hewn and pit-sawn and measure 2½" wide by 4" deep; the joint details are not accessible. Some of the roof nailers are early and are made of wide planks, 1" thick by 11 to 12" wide. The south gable wall is framed

with hewn and riven studs, typically about 2¼" square, mitered and nailed to the gable rafter pair with machine-headed cut nails. The present gable siding has circular-saw marks on the interior face, indicating it post-dates 1850 and may be part of the salvaged material installed during the restoration.

FIGURE 9-9. *Roof construction. The common rafter roof is constructed with hewn and pit-sawn rafters set at 40 degrees and joined at the ridge with pinned mortise-and-tenon joints. The gable studs are riven from hewn stocks, mitered and nailed to the gable rafter pairs with machine-headed cut nails.*

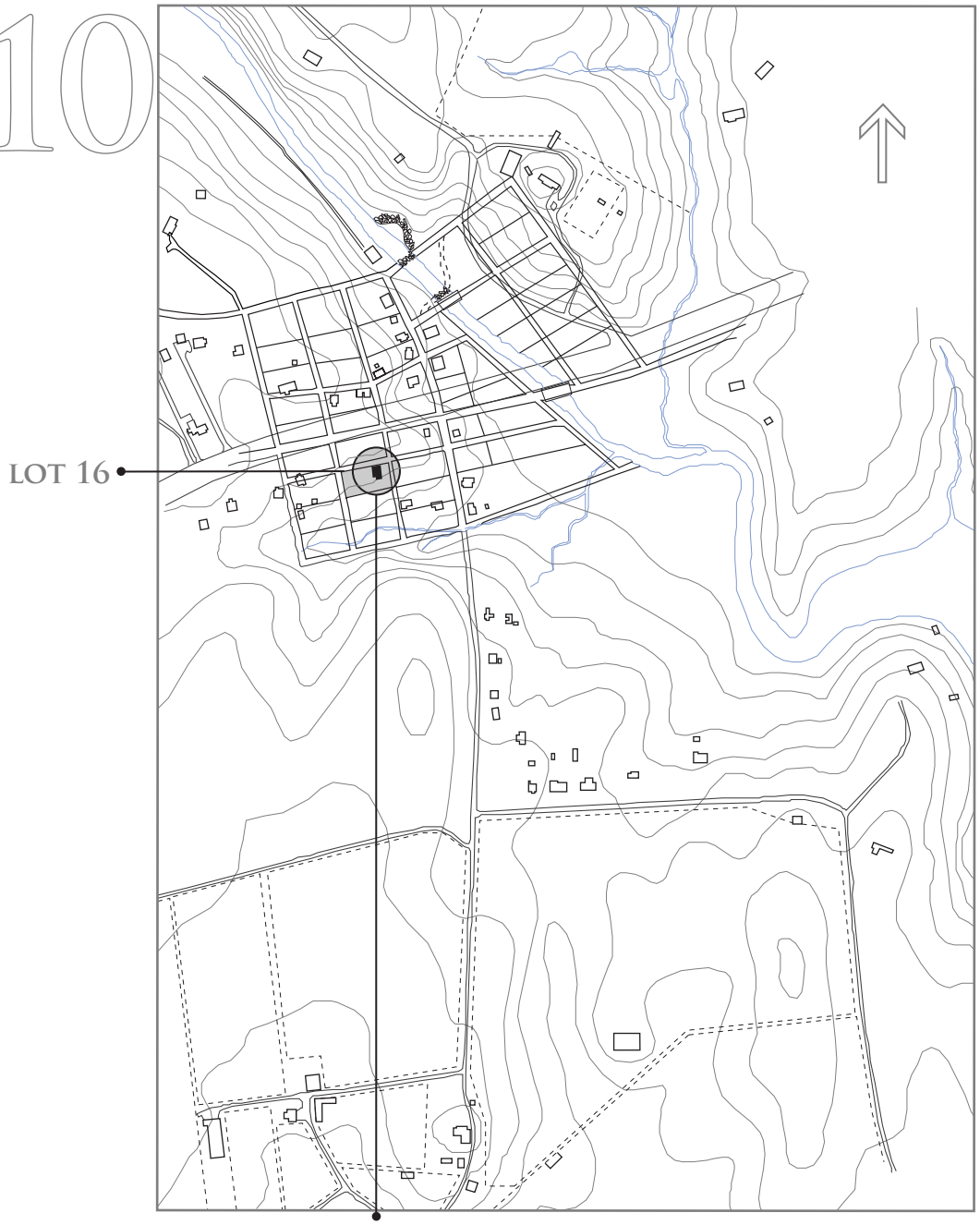
Dating evidence for this house is limited. All nails that can be observed are of a machine-cut variety and are typically found in the 1810s and 1820s. Framing is largely hewn and pit-sawn, a technique common in the eighteenth-century, but still used in varying degrees up until the time of the Civil War. The shaped corner and partition posts are datable to a degree. Although L- and T-section corner posts are known in Virginia as early as 1754 in Eastern Virginia, beyond the fall line they date primarily to the first quarter of the nineteenth-century. The stair carriages are cut to profile, a practice that gained favor in the 1810s and later, but certainly this technique is known in Virginia as early as the turn of the nineteenth-century. Based on a limited sample accessible at the north end of the building, the ground-story floorboards are not gauged and undercut, but at most have lightly eased lower edges. This method of preparing floorboards was all but standard for pit-sawn flooring, but passed out of general use by about 1820, in conjunction with a rise in more uniformly dimensioned sash-sawn stock. Board partitions constructed with beaded sheathing are still common in the 1820s, but bead sizes have generally been reduced to ¼", unlike the older fashion of 3/8" and ½" beads seen here. The window evidence is one last detail that has some bearing on the date. Nine-over-six window sash (as found on the west wall in 1988) are rarely seen after about 1825, and riven framing members (as used in the gable) also pass out of common use in the second quarter of the nineteenth century.

Boiled down to the principal evidence, then—the lack of any visible wrought nails in the frame or trim, or even the use of hand-headed cut nails, a true story-and-a-half frame, and the employment of L and T-section corner posts best fits an 1810s or 1820s construction date and makes Ned Distiller the likely candidate for having erected the house.

NOTES

[1] Prince William County Deeds, Book 1, folio 159; November 1, 1800.
[2] The price range for unimproved lots is based on the series of deeds executed by the Trustees for Buckland in July 1798.
[3] Deed Book 1, folio 159.
[4] Tax Assessment for Buckland, Virginia, 1801. Transcriptions prepared by David Blake, 2005.
[5] Tax Assessments for Buckland, Virginia, 1803; 1804; 1806.
[6] Photographs are owned by Rose and William Hazel, the current owners.
[7] Tax Assessment for Buckland, Virginia, 1820.
[8] For "Ned Distiller," see Tax Assessment for Buckland, Virginia, 1812. For "Distiller Ned," see Prince William County Deeds, Book 8, folio 26-27; and Book 8, folio 27-28. He is variously described as "of Colour," "Black," and "of color."
[9] In the years between the 1812 and 1820 listings, "Ned Stiller" is included in the Tax Assessments for 1813, 1814, 1815, 1817, 1818, and 1819.
[10] Deeds, Book 8, folio 26-27; March 20, 1821.
[11] Deeds, Book 8, folio 27-28; June 4, 1821.
[12] Interview with Rose and Bill Hazel by Orlando Ridout V, April 29, 2005.

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE REPORT 10



BUCKLAND CHURCH

ST. MARK'S METHODIST CHURCH

16211 LEE HIGHWAY

DHR NO. 76-116

1856; 1990




Figure 10-1. *View from northwest. Constructed in 1856 as St. Mark's Methodist Church, this is one of just three surviving churches in Prince William County that pre-date the Civil War. The 1863 panorama of the town drawn by Alfred Waud indicates there were paired front doors. Architectural evidence supports this configuration, altered at some later date.*

Significance

The Buckland Church was constructed in 1856 as St. Mark's Methodist Church and served in that capacity until the early twentieth century. According to local tradition, the church was made available for use by other denominations, and for a period of time starting in 1907 served as an Episcopal chapel. This is one of just three surviving churches in Prince William County that date prior to the Civil War, and the only extant antebellum example in the county of a once-common type in mid-nineteenth century Virginia—the frame, temple-form church widely favored by Methodist and Baptist congregations in particular. An original feature of the building is the gallery across the north end of the sanctuary, presumably used by African American members of the community, both slave and free. African American membership in this congregation can be demonstrated by the extensive number of burials in the western section of the cemetery, represented by neatly worked but unmarked stones.

The Buckland Church is also significant as a benchmark for interpreting architectural practice in Buckland after about 1850. Here, the roof is constructed with barked pole construction, with members hewn flat only where necessary. This method of construction appears in at least five other buildings in Buckland ranging from the 1850s to ca. 1890s. Buckland Church is the only place where the work is signed by builders Leslie Sanders and Thurston Brown, and dated November 24, 1856. It seems likely that Sanders and Brown were also the builders for the 1850s phase of work at the Dr. Brown House and possibly for the southerly of the two houses just across Buckland Mill Road to the east. Other examples date to the post-Civil War period and could be their work as well, or that of other local carpenters adapting this inexpensive framing system.

Historical Summary

The Buckland Church is located on the south side of Lee Highway just west of the intersection with Buckland Mill Road in Buckland, Virginia. The white, frame church is sited on high ground on the west side of Broad Run, and stands on what was Lot No. 16 in the original plan of the town. The church lot was bounded by Lot 15 and the Warrenton turnpike to the north, by Madison Street to the west, Jane Street to the south, and Fayette Street to the east. The line of Jane Street is still clearly visible along the back edge of the church parking lot and immediately to the east, and the western edge of the cemetery defines the location of Madison Street.

This church was constructed in 1856 as St. Mark's Methodist Church, on a site reportedly donated by the Hite family.[1] This was not the first church in Buckland—in 1835 Joseph Martin's *Gazetteer* listed the chief assets of the community, including "1 house of public worship free for all denominations."[2] The present building served as a Methodist church until the early twentieth century and evidently was also available for use by other denominations. In 1907 it passed into use as an Episcopal chapel, and eventually ceased to serve as a place of worship.[3] It was purchased by Thomas J. Ashe, Jr. in the late 1980s and renovated in 1990.[4] Today, it is leased to a local congregation and serves once again as a church.

An important document for this church is a pencil drawing executed during the Civil War engagement that took place at Buckland on October 19, 1863. This view, executed by illustrator Alfred Waud, provides a panorama of the town from the heights at Cerro Gordo, facing southwest. The church is clearly visible in this

view, and closely matches its current appearance with several exceptions. The form of the church and roof are a close match, and there are three windows on the east side, as well as chimneys in the proper locations on each side wall. The two windows in the upper gable of the north wall are also evident, but rather than the single door that is centered in this gable today, Waud indicates there were two doors, aligned with the windows above. Also missing in 1863 are the later cupola, the rear apse, and the modern entrance porch.

St. Mark's is one of just three extant churches in Prince William County that pre-date the Civil War.[5] Of four churches in the county that served as hospitals during the Civil War, it is one of two that survived unscathed.[6] It is the best example in the county of a frame, temple-form church of the antebellum period, and retains the gallery that was used by free and enslaved African Americans. The cemetery to the west of the church includes the graves of numerous early citizens of Buckland, as well as an extensive assemblage of nineteenth-century African American burials.

Architectural Description: Exterior

The church is of frame construction on a low stone foundation, rectangular in plan, and oriented on a north-south axis, with the principal entrance located in the north gable elevation. The church measures 30'-4½" across the front gable and 40'-5" in length, with a moderately pitched gable roof oriented on the long, north-south axis. A pyramidal-roofed cupola at the north end of the roof adds an ornamental element. The principal entrance is centered in the north gable, and three tall windows are symmetrically placed on each side elevation, but biased to the south to accommodate a gallery across the north end of the sanctuary. An early addition, also of frame construction, projects from the south gable, serving as an apse for the sanctuary, as well as a cloistered room in the southeast corner that now serves as a meeting room.

The principal elevation of the church is the north gable, facing the turnpike, now Lee Highway. The present entrance is in the center of the first story, but the Waud view of 1863, noted above, indicates there were two entrances, each aligned with a second-story window. Seams in the front siding provide clear evidence for a door under the west window; siding has been extensively replaced in the eastern portion of this gable. Thus it seems likely that the Waud drawing is accurate on this detail, which in turn suggests that the interior stair has been repositioned at some point. The second-story windows on this gable are fitted with six-over-six sash; these openings provide light to the interior gallery. The gable elevation is covered with plain horizontal siding of 4½" to 5½" exposure. The early siding that survives is weathered, has a significant build-up of paint, and is applied with mature cut nails of a type commonly used from the 1830s to the 1890s. Later siding is crisper in detail, has less paint, and is secured with wire nails. Also note that the siding in the upper gable displays circular saw marks on the back face, visible from the attic.

Figure 10-2. *East elevation. The building is an important religious landmark in the county and is an important benchmark for local carpentry traditions. Signed by local carpenters Leslie Sanders and Thurston Brown in 1856, the building incorporates circular-sawn timber as well as hewn pole rafters, the latter representing a craft tradition found in Buckland from the 1850s through the end of the nineteenth century.*

The gable eaves oversail approximately 12" and are boxed in and embellished with a crown mold applied to the plain fascia. Projecting gable eaves are an ornamental detail that came into fashion in the mid-nineteenth century, and would be considered an original feature here except for the consistent set of seams that suggest that the eaves may have been finished originally with a tapered rakeboard applied directly to the siding. It is also possible that the cornices all required repairs, but it seems more likely that the eaves were reconfigured as part of an effort to make the ante-bellum structure more stylish, most likely at the same time that the cupola was added. This cupola is centered on the north end of the roof, and is square in form with a pyramidal roof covered with tin and topped with a simple cross. The cupola is embellished with simple, scrolled brackets at

the cornice, scroll-sawn decoration, and modillion-like blocks around the base.

FIGURE 10-3. *The bell cupola and the frame projection at the south end of the sanctuary are later features, probably added in the late nineteenth century, or perhaps in 1907, when the building passed into use as an Episcopal chapel.*

The west elevation is 40 feet long and is dominated by the three large nine-over-nine windows. The pitch of the church (the height from sill to top plate) is approximately 16½ feet, and the windows are proportioned accordingly, measuring 3'-6" wide and 8'-8" high, with 12" by 16" panes set in slim, 5/8" muntins. The windows are symmetrically ordered but are not centered on the overall length of the wall; instead they are centered on the main body of the sanctuary, leaving a blank expanse of wall at the north end that corresponds to the interior gallery. The siding on this elevation appears to be original—the same material found on the north gable, but consistently of the earlier type, with weathered surfaces, heavy paint, and mature cut nails, sometimes reinforced with wire nails. Storm windows conceal some details of the window frames, and louvered two-part shutters flank each window opening. The shutters are modern and non-functioning, screwed to the siding; hinge scars in the window jambs indicate that the openings did have functional shutters at one time.

One peculiarity of this elevation and the corresponding east elevation is a late twentieth-century modification at the base of the wall. Apparently in an effort to reduce water penetration, new siding has been added, kicked out from the plane of the wall by a row of short posts or wooden blocks. This modification seems more likely to conceal future problems than to prevent them. The siding is trimmed out with plain 4" corner boards and equally plain window trim. The cornice on this elevation is boxed out with a plain soffit and fascia; a simple piece of trim has been applied to the fascia. A brick stove chimney is located just to the south of the center window, constructed against the interior face of the exterior wall. The roof is standing-seam metal, replacing an earlier covering of wood shingles, as demonstrated by evidence in the attic (discussed below).

The east elevation mirrors the west wall, with the same over-sized, nine-over-nine windows, early siding, boxed cornice, standing-seam roof, and brick stove chimney. Storm windows and non-functioning shutters have been added, most likely ca. 1990. The south gable wall is partially concealed by the one-story frame addition. The exposed portion of the main church at this end is very plain, with no windows or exterior doors. The siding, corner boards, and cornice treatment all match the north gable, including the application of a crown mold to the cornice fascia, a detail that might have seemed extraneous on the less visible end of the church.

The south addition is offset in relation to the main gable of the church. It extends 12'-2½" south from the church and is 22'-0½" on the east-west axis, but set flush with the east wall of the church. The addition is of frame construction on a poured concrete foundation. The walls are sheathed with German or "drop" siding secured with mature, machine-made nails. The roof is framed with rafters that oversail and are left exposed with scrolled, ornamental ends; one-inch roof sheathing is tightly fitted, trimmed at the gable eaves with a plain barge board, and overlaid with standing-seam metal roofing. A large four-light window with a Gothic arch is set high in the south wall of this addition. Positioned on the center axis of the church, it serves as a focal point behind the altar. A smaller, conventional two-over-two window is located in the east bay of the south wall, and a four-panel door is located at the north end of the east wall, adjacent to the southeast corner of the original building.

The siding, scrolled rafter ends, and fenestration details all suggest a date of construction in the latter part of the nineteenth century. Also noteworthy is the concrete foundation. While this latter feature could be a later rebuild of an earlier foundation, the concrete is relatively soft and buff colored, with a granular matrix—

all elements that indicate it was made without Portland cement. The latter material came into use in the United States in the 1870s, but would not necessarily have been readily available or widely used in rural Virginia until the end of the nineteenth century. Thus it seems likely to be an original detail and a relatively early use of poured concrete in a simple rural structure.

Architectural Description: Interior

The interior of the church consists of a rectangular sanctuary with a gallery across the north end and an apse centered on the south gable. The present entrance, located in the center of the north gable, opens onto a short, wide passage that ascends with a gently sloping floor to the sanctuary. A staircase rises against the north wall immediately east of the entrance, turns at the northeast corner of the building and continues up along the east wall to the gallery. The stair is constructed with sash-sawn stringers, circular-sawn treads and risers, and is put together with mature, machine-made nails, indicating the stair dates prior to ca. 1890s. The space under the gallery has been partitioned and adapted in recent years for two bathrooms on the east side of the aisle and a nursery on the west side. The upper gallery has been partitioned off at the front railing and subdivided into several spaces for child-care and storage. The front railing is still evident, however, and consists of pairs of flat, horizontal rails running between plain posts.

The sanctuary measures approximately 28 feet square and is now organized with a central aisle and two rows of pews facing a raised platform and lectern, positioned in front of the apse, which is framed with a large Gothic arch. The apse is open to the roof, which is framed with steeply pitched common rafters overlaid with beaded sheathing, and reinforced (more aesthetic than structural) with a single scissor truss. It is unclear if the raised section is an original feature, and if so, whether it was enclosed with an altar rail. The original wood floors are now concealed under plywood underlayment and wall-to-wall carpeting; the beaded wainscot walls have been covered with drywall. The brick stove chimneys project from the side walls just south of the middle windows, but these, too, have been encased with drywall. Plain baseboard and a double-beaded chairrail encircle the sanctuary; these date to the 1990 renovation.

Based on the 1863 Waud drawing and admittedly limited physical evidence, it seems likely that the church originally had two doors in the front gable. If so, then the original stair would have been configured differently, as it now rises across the location of the presumed east door. Paired entrances were a common feature of Quaker meeting houses and in nineteenth century schools, in both cases as a means to separate male and female access to the structure. Dual entrances are not a common feature for Episcopal or Methodist churches, but occasional instances can be found in the south where separate entrances are provided for blacks and whites.

In a particularly compelling case, the Burrisville Methodist Church on Maryland's Eastern Shore was designed with two entrances, clearly to provide separate access for black and white parishioners. A single, handsomely finished entrance in the center of the front gable served as the entrance for the sanctuary, while a plainly finished door around the left corner provided a secondary entrance. This door opened into a small vestibule containing a winder stair that led directly to the gallery, which was plainly finished and used by the African American portion of the congregation, both slave and free. The Burrisville Church was constructed in 1858, and only served a bi-racial congregation for a relatively short time. In the years following the Civil War, the free blacks and recently freed slaves formed a coherent and independent community and built their own church and school.

The Burrisville Church may offer insights into the possible lay-out and use of the Buckland Church. The pair of entrances may represent a separation of congregants by race, as certainly seems to be suggested by the gallery, and the arrangement of both entrances on the front gable of the church may be a reflection of the number and status of free blacks in Buckland in the ante-bellum period. If this interpretation is correct, then the left or east door was probably intended for black congregants, with a winder stair in the northeast corner of the building providing access to the gallery. Sometime after the Civil War, it seems likely that Buckland's black population established a church of their own, a separation that would also explain the apparent absence of later African American burials in the Buckland Church cemetery. Resolution of this aspect of the Buckland Church will have to await further documentary research and an opportunity to expose early framing and building fabric in the north

end of the church.

The roof and unfinished attic are accessible through a hatch in the ceiling of the gallery. The roof is framed with barked, pole rafters flattened on the top surface and mitred at the ridge and spiked together. The rafters are 4½" to 5" in diameter at chest height and are reinforced with random-width, one-inch planks nailed to the faces of the rafter pairs with mature cut nails. It is unclear if the collars are an original feature or were added later in the nineteenth century, but the relatively shallow roof pitch (28 to 30 degrees) suggests the collars would have been deemed necessary from the start. The rafters are mitered at the eave and sit on flat, 1" by 10" false plates, which in turn are nailed to circular-sawn 1 7/8" by 9½" ceiling joists set on 24" centers. Roof sheathing consists of random-width one-inch planks, rough-sawn with a circular saw. Remnants of a wood shingle roof survive where trapped by the construction of the cupola at the north end of the roof; elsewhere, the standing seam metal roof is visible from the attic. The gable ends of the attic are framed with studs made of the same barked poles, mitered and nailed to the bottom faces of the gable rafters with mature, machine-made nails. A board nailed to one of the collars offers the following pencil inscription:

"Built by Leslie Sanders and Thurston Brown November 24, 1856."

This inscription was supplemented in the late twentieth century:

"Rebuilt by Thomas J. Ashe 12-2-90."

The materials and method of constructing this roof are virtually identical to the roof of the south (period I) section of the Dr. Brown House on Mill Street in Buckland. This portion of the Dr. Brown House is believed to date to the latter part of the 1850s based on architectural and documentary evidence, and it seems likely that Sanders and Brown may have been the carpenters for that project as well.

Cemetery

The principal part of the cemetery lies to the west of the church, with professionally carved tombstones closest to the church and a neatly arranged group of burials marked by rough fieldstone slabs located along the western edge of the burial ground. While a careful inventory of tombstone inscriptions was not undertaken as part of this survey, three stones were noted that bear value for the architectural survey of Buckland. At the extreme southwest edge of the more formal burying ground are three stones marking the graves of the Trone family. John S. Trone was a member of the clergy and a blacksmith. He lived in (and probably built) the small house immediately to the east of the church, operated a blacksmith shop, and was an integral part of Buckland for much of his life. Trone's grave marker is inscribed:

IN MEMORY OF
REV.
JOHN STEADMAN TRONE
BORN IN
PRINCE WM. CO., VA
FEB. 16, 1802
DIED OCT. 5, 1885.
I would not live always
Having a desire to depart.

Adjoining Trone's marker is that of his wife:

IN MEMORY OF
DELILAH TRONE
WIFE OF
REV. JOHN S. TRONE
DIED DEC. 22, 1876.
In the 81st year of her age.
A faithful partner and a
Mother kind,
She lived benevolent and died
Resigned.

A third stone marks the grave of the Trone's daughter:

JULIA AGNES TRONE
WIFE OF EUGENE COMPTON
NOV. 30, 1839.
AUG. 16, 1914.
A faithful daughter, a true wife,
A Christian.

The section of the cemetery marked with fieldstones is almost certainly African American, a tradition that can be traced back into the eighteenth century in Virginia and Maryland. These burials probably all date to the nineteenth century, as there are no markers of cast concrete, a technique that gains prominence in African American burial grounds by the end of the nineteenth century. Approximately thirty

stones can be identified in this part of the cemetery. While some of these may prove simply to be random stones and not grave markers, as many as twenty are neat, rectangular slabs of stone set vertically in the ground, aligned in orderly rows that run north-south, with the burials aligned east to west and the stones set at the east end of the grave. Perhaps a half-dozen burials are marked by depressions, and some of these retain stone markers. Cumulatively, this is by far the most extensive collection of such burials that members of the field team have encountered in Maryland and Virginia.

Also of interest are a group of stones at the southwest corner of the cemetery. Three are similar to the unmarked stones that lie to the south, but these are inscribed as follows:

L. J. HALL

F. A. HALL

D. E. HALL

A twentieth-century tombstone adjoining these stones should prove helpful in identifying the three early burials. This stone is granite, professionally executed, and is inscribed:

HALL
EDWARD J.
AUGUST 3, 1861
AUGUST 18, 1940
BETTY E.
JUNE 4, 1871
JANUARY 18, 1963

Other burial markers are evident elsewhere in the church yard, including a cluster to the northeast, along the driveway, and a pair within the circle formed by the drive. One of the latter is enclosed with the rusted remains of an iron fence.

NOTES

[1] Martha Leitch, " Buckland, Prince William County, Virginia." *Echoes Of History*, Newsletter of the Pioneer America Society, vol. 3, no. 6 (November 1973), p. 84; R. Jackson Ratcliffe, *This Was Prince William*, (Leesburg, Virginia: Potomac Press, 1978), p. 19. Leitch dates the church to 1854, Ratcliffe to 1856, and in the 1987 National Register District nomination, James Massey indicates it was built in 1857. The 1856 date cited here is based on the signed and dated inscription in the attic (see architectural description). The National Register form also notes that at one time, the church was known as St. Paul's Church. The reference to the Hite family ("Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Hite") is found in Laurie C. Wieder, ed., *Prince William: A Past to Preserve*, p. 139.

[2] Joseph Martin, *A New and Comprehensive Gazetteer of Virginia and the District of Columbia*, Charlottesville, Virginia, 1835, quoted in Leitch, pp. 83-84.

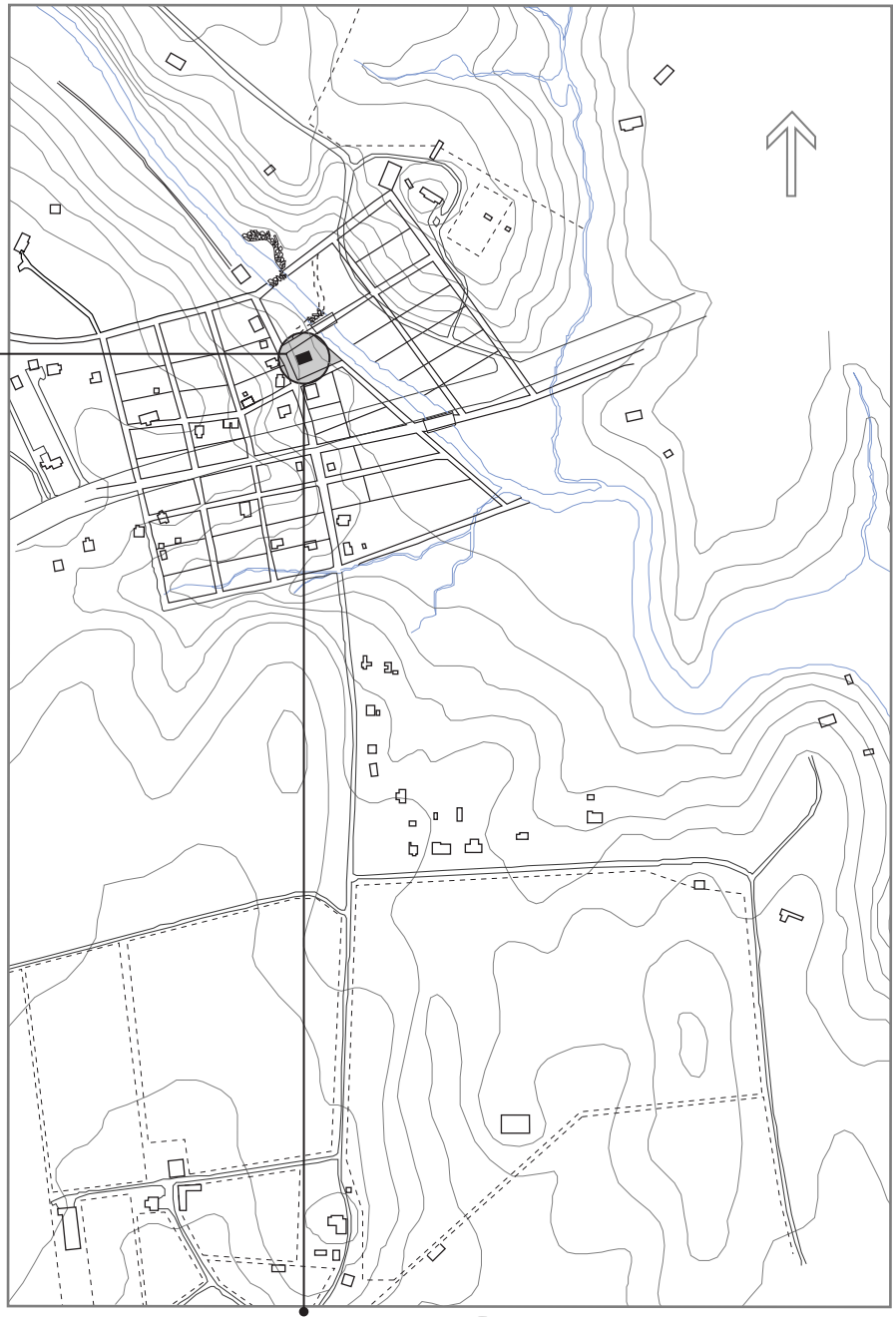
[3] Ratcliffe, p. 19.

[4] The specific date for the renovation by Tom Ashe is documented by an inscription in the attic (see architectural description). The National Register nomination states that an earlier renovation occurred in 1962.

[5] This statement is based on a review of all churches identified in Wieder, *Prince William: A Past to Preserve*. The other churches are St. James Episcopal (1847) in Brentsville and Greenwich Presbyterian Church (1858-59). St. Paul's Episcopal in Haymarket was built in 1801-03 as a courthouse and in 1834 was consecrated as a church; it was burned in 1862 and rebuilt after the Civil War. Bethel Methodist Church was constructed in 1850 but required reconstruction after the Civil War and was moved in the 1970s. See Wieder, pp. 66, 139, 128-29, 44.

[6] St. James Episcopal and the Buckland Church survived the war without significant damage. St. Paul's was burned in 1862 and rebuilt; the specific damage to Bethel Methodist is not described, but it required reconstruction after the war. See Wieder, pp. 66, 128-29, 44.

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE REPORT 11



DEERLICK COTTAGE

HAMPTON-BROOKS STORE

8111 BUCKLAND MILL ROAD

DHR NO. 76-114

ca. 1800-1810; ca. 1850; 1953; ca. 1970




Figure 11-1. *View from southwest. Constructed in the first decade of the nineteenth century, this story-and-a-half frame structure served as a store operated first by John Hampton and later by William Brooks.*

Significance

The building known in recent years as Deerlick Cottage dates to the first decade of the nineteenth century and was constructed as a commercial store, operated first by John Hampton and then by William Brooks. It continued in this capacity for much of the nineteenth century and later was converted for use as a residence. Despite later alterations and damage from a fire, the building retains clear evidence of its initial role as a commercial structure, set parallel to the street in the fashion of rural examples rather than the gable-front plan favored in urban settings. Evidence for its commercial function includes a distinctive plan arrangement with an unheated mercantile room to the north and a heated counting room to the south, a whitewashed cellar with broadly proportioned access door, doubled-sheathed exterior doors, hand-forged iron security bars on two of the windows and one door, and extensive tack damage to the front door, the result of long use as a posting place for public notices. Local tradition holds that this building also served as the Buckland post office for a period of time in the nineteenth century, a function that is fully consistent with the available physical evidence and is supported by a comparison of ownership records with the known postmasters.[1]

Historical Summary

Deerlick Cottage is located on Lot No. 29 in the original town plan of Buckland. The name seems to have been selected by the late owner, Martha Leitch, following her purchase of the property in 1953. Deerlick is reported to be an early name for the community, predating the establishment of Buckland in the late 1790s.[2] Lot 29 is located on the east side of Mill Street (now Buckland Mill Road) and extends down to the bank of Broad Run. The building that stands on this property today has been the subject of much speculation as to its age and original use. In her historical essay on Buckland, for example, Martha Leitch offers the most useful published description of the building:

> Directly across Mill Street from the Moss House…is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Leitch, now called "Deerlick Cottage." It was once a combination dwelling, general store and bar. The whiskey was made on the premises, kept in barrels and ladled out by dipper into jugs which the customers brought themselves. It adjoins the "Spring Lot" where one of Bucklands two good springs is still located, which probably explains why it was a good site for a still. A deed in 1812 refers to it as "Where the old still house was." William Brooks bought it and erected another still. Anne Royall, writing under the name of "Paul Pry," stated that she visited Buckland in 1830 and while there, saw the "largest still and the most perfect gentlemen she had ever seen anywhere."[3]

A search of early land records for this part of Buckland confirms Leitch's claims regarding a still, although ownership is complicated. Lot 29 was subdivided into two parts, and the history of this lot in the early years is intertwined with that of Lot 28, the next lot to the north. The earliest record for Lot 29 located thus far, executed in 1799, conveys part of Lot 29 from John and Elizabeth Love to Francis Hawley. The price of £12 current money of Virginia is consistent with concurrent sales of undeveloped lots along Mill Street, but the deed indicates Hawley had already made some improvements and was probably only being charged for the land. The lot is described as

> …all that tenement Lott or parcel of Ground whereon the said Francis Hawley has his Stables and is part of a tract called Buckland and is bounded as follows…Beginning on the margin of Broad run & being part of Lott No. 29 in the plan of Buckland & running from said margin Westerly along Bridge street to the Corner of Bridge & Mill streets, thence Southerly along Mill street thirty eight feet thence Easterly

parallel with bridge street to Broad run thence up sd run to the beginning.[4]

In March of 1800 Francis and Sarah Hawley sold the same lot with stables to John Taylor, Jr., also for £12 current money of Virginia.[5] By 1811, when Samuel Hudson sold the same 38-foot portion of Lot 29 to William Brooks, the price had increased to £75 current money of Virginia and the property was described as "all that Tenement Lott or parcel of Ground whereon John Hampton has a store…being part of Lott No. 29 in the Plan of the Town of Buckland."[6] The following year William Brooks purchased a less clearly defined portion of Lot 29 from John Love for $50. This property was described in the deed as "one Lott in the Town of Buckland, being part of the Lot No. 29 in the plat of sd. Town, where the old still House stood."[7]

Lot 28, located across Bridge Street to the north, was sold by John Love to his brother, Samuel Love, Jr., in October 1798. This transaction included Lot No. 1 as well, a property that was improved by a store already occupied by Samuel Love, Jr. Thus the price for this transaction of £100 current money of Virginia primarily reflects the improvements on Lot 1.[8] By late in the following year, however, Samuel Love had made improvements to Lot 28, for in September 1799, he sold Lot 28 alone to John Taylor, Jr. for £200 current money of Virginia. The boundary description specifically anchors the lot to Bridge Street:

> …the said Lott No. 28 lying on Bridge and Mill Streets Beginning at the South West corner formed by the intersection of said Streets & Running thence with Bridge street to the bank of Broad run thence up Broad Run on the bank or Margin thereof in a Straight line 16 feet thence South Westerly in a line parallel to Bridge Street Forty five feet Thence North Westerly in a line parallel to Mill Street thirty four feet thence South Westerly in a line parallel to bridge Street to Mill Street Thence with Mill Street to the Beginning.[9]

The high price received for this partial lot leaves little doubt that Samuel Love, Jr. established the distillery during his brief ownership in 1798-1799. The 1801 tax assessment for Buckland listed "John Taylor…1 lot…$100…part of Lot 29…$25…where your still is." The valuations refer to the annual rent the property could generate, and $100 is among the highest assessments in Buckland for that year.[10] This same valuation appears in several ensuing tax assessments, charged to John Taylor for the years 1802-1804 and 1806. The next available list, in 1809, makes no reference to Taylor or to Lots 28 and 29.

By 1811 the distillery had either failed financially or perhaps had been destroyed by fire or flood. In July of that year, John Taylor, Jr. sold the same portion of Lot 28 to Josiah Watson for just $30, indicating a dramatic decline in value.[11] Tax assessments indicate Lot 28 was of marginal concern in the ensuing years—it vanishes from the tax records until 1824, when two lots owned by Watson are noted as "unimproved" and in 1851 Lot 28 is specifically identified and valued at just $50.[12]

The documentary evidence therefore suggests a distillery was in operation on Lots 28 and/or 29 from 1799 through at least 1806, and that Lot 29 was improved by construction of a commercial store building sometime during the period 1800-1810, and most likely ca. 1807, by John Hampton or Samuel Hudson. A physical investigation of the building that stands today indicates that the original structure is constructed with double-struck machine cut nails of a type found in contexts from the 1790s to about 1830, but primarily in the first decade of the nineteenth century. Further, the floor plan of the period I structure is of a form favored for commercial stores in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Together, the evidence seems compelling that this building is the store purchased by William Brooks in 1811.

The building on Lot 29 continued in use as a store through the 1860s at least. In 1870, the property was sold by Miranda Chappell to Orlando J. Glasscock for $950. In that transaction, it was described as "one-half acre…in which lot is a store house granary and stable."[13] The property remained in the Glasscock family through the late nineteenth century, at least, but by 1878 was constrained by delinquent taxes and in 1886 was sold at public auction to Mrs. Lassie Glasscock.[14] Martha Leitch reports that the store contents were sold at auction in 1871, and that the sale included "dry goods, boots, shoes, groceries, hardware and such merchandise as is usually kept in a country store."[15]

Local tradition holds that the building also was used as a post office. That function is supported by two

architectural details. First, the heavy, double-thickness front door is peppered with tack holes from generations of public notices. Second, the small out-shut room at the north end of the porch is an early element of the building, and may have served as a room dedicated specifically for postal use. Buckland acquired a post office in 1800, the earliest site in western Prince William County, and retained that status until 1907. Further documentary research into the ownership of this property should clarify its tenure as the post office for Buckland.[16]

Photographs taken by Grace Bear (owner of the Buckland Tavern) around 1950 indicate that Deerlick Cottage at that time had a symmetrical pitched gable roof, suggesting that the present asymmetrical form dates to work undertaken by Martha Leitch following her purchase of the property in 1953. Charred framing members evident in the crawl space above the kitchen indicate the south end of the building was badly damaged by a fire, raising the possibility that the fire was the catalyst for a major renovation that included structural repairs, alteration of the roof configuration, and opening up the first-floor interior into a single room with an exposed-joist ceiling.

Despite these mid-twentieth century changes to the building, the core structure survives largely intact. A careful review of the architectural fabric provides solid evidence that the building was initially constructed as a commercial store in the first decade of the nineteenth century and was later converted to a residence. The architectural evidence also supports the tradition that this building served as the post office for Buckland for an unknown period of time in the nineteenth century. Individual features of particular significance include the beaded batten door peppered with tack holes from the many public notices posted on it, the diagonal iron security bars that once secured shutters on two of the store windows, and the interior evidence of a store and counting room plan.

Architectural Description: Exterior

The building known today as Deerlick Cottage developed in at least four and possibly five periods of construction. The original building is a frame structure, a true one-and-one-half stories high and one room deep on a full cellar, oriented on the north-south axis parallel to Mill Street to the west and Broad Run to the east. This building had a gable roof, with a chimney centered on the south gable. The interior plan consisted of two rooms—a large, unheated commercial store room to the north, and a smaller, heated counting room to the south. At an early date (about 1850), the chimney on the south gable was demolished, the building was enlarged 10'-0" to the south, and a new exterior chimney was built on the new gable end. A lean-to addition was added at the south end of the east elevation and, most likely, at this time the small room was added to the north end of the west (Mill Street) elevation.

In 1953 the property was acquired by Martha Leitch and another round of improvements was made. The east pitch of the roof was raised to its present, asymmetrical profile, the outshut room at the northwest corner of the building was renovated as a bathroom, and the west porch was extended to the south. It was probably at this time that the first floor interior was opened into a single room, the staircase was rebuilt, and the second floor bedchambers were renovated. In the 1970s, the early lean-to on the east side of the house was expanded to the full length of the house.

The west elevation, facing Mill Street, is the principal façade. The building is a true story-and-a-half, so the west wall extends 2'-0" above the second floor, creating more commodious chamber space on the upper story. This extra height is partially obscured by a shed-roof porch that extends the full length of the west elevation, terminating against an early, one-room outshut at the north end. This outshut projects 7'-0" from the west wall and extends 9'-3" from north to south. There are five openings in the main elevation, all protected by the porch—a door flanked by six-over-six windows at the north end and two more six-over-six windows widely spaced to the south. The southern-most of these openings corresponds to the period II (ca. 1850) south addition.

The door opening is the principal entrance for the building, and is fitted with a double-layer batten door. This opening is 2'-11¾" wide and just 5'-6 3/8" high. The exterior surface consists of random-width beaded boards (10½ to 11" wide with ¼" bead) set on the diagonal, and joined with clinched, hand-forged nails to an interior layer of vertical, random-width beaded boards (6½ to 10" with ¼" bead). Three horizontal battens with beveled edges are secured to the interior face. The door is hung to swing inward from the north jamb on a pair of hand-forged 20" iron strap hinges. A

careful examination of the exterior door surface and the jambs of the opening indicate that the door has been re-mounted, and originally swung from the south jamb. Ghost outlines of two earlier hinge positions are evident on the exterior face of the door, and multiple clues delineate an early lock location on the interior face of the door. These include the ghost outline of a rim lock on the interior face of the door, filled key and spindle holes on the exterior face, and the scar for a lock keeper on the north jamb of the opening.

FIGURE 11-2. *Principal entrance door. An unusual feature is the original double-layer door, with beaded boards laid diagonally on the exterior face and vertically on the interior. The upper part of the door bears the scars of hundreds of tacks used to post public notices on a building that is believed to have served in the nineteenth century as the town post office.*

The two windows that flank the door retain early, hand-forged iron security bars that were made to be fastened diagonally across exterior shutters to secure the openings. When in use, a removable iron pin was pushed through a hole at the end of this bar, through a corresponding hole in the window jamb, and was then wedged tight on the interior of the window. Bars such as these are features associated with commercial structures. A small three-over-three window in the west wall of the outshut provides light to that room, and a pair of pitched-roof, six-over-six dormer windows provide light to the second-story chambers.

FIGURE 11-3. *The windows flanking the front door on the west elevation retain hand-forged iron bars that could be placed across exterior shutters for security, a feature associated with commercial structures.*

Any early siding that survives on the west elevation is concealed by a late twentieth century covering of vinyl siding; the cornice is cased with vinyl as well, and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Early louvered shutters have been screwed to the siding as decorative rather than functional elements. These shutters are through-tenoned and pinned and retain scars from 3” butt hinges.

On the north elevation, a six-over-six window is centered on the first story and a small window with modern sash is located in the upper gable. The original stone foundation is pierced by an opening fitted with a small beaded door or shutter that is fixed in place and secured from the inside. A brick stove chimney rises against this gable, constructed with manufactured brick and Portland-based mortar, probably dating to the early twentieth century. The siding and eaves are cased with vinyl.

The south elevation dates to the second period of construction (ca. 1850), when the building was extended in this direction about ten feet. A stone and

brick chimney is centered on the gable, flanked by six-over-six windows on the first story and a smaller window with modern, single-light sash to the east of the chimney in the upper gable. The foundation and chimney shaft are rubble stone construction repointed in the mid-twentieth century with Portland-based mortar. The shaft tapers in just above garret floor level and to this point is engaged to the gable wall. Above the shoulders, the chimney is brick, large enough to provide a single flue for the first story fireplace, and stands proud of the gable siding by 7 or 8". The siding, window trim, and oversailing eaves are encased with modern vinyl.

FIGURE 11-4. *South elevation. The southern ten feet of this structure and the southern portion of the east lean-to (on the right in this image) date to a mid nineteenth-century expansion. The chimney dates to that expansion and serves a single fireplace on the first floor—the chamber above is unheated.*

The east elevation of the early structure has been covered or obscured by later periods of construction. A one-story lean-to addition was made as part of the ca. 1850 enlargement of the main block. This addition is of frame construction on a stone foundation that is fully exposed due to the sloping site. The addition is constructed using round poles for framing members, flattened with an adz or broad axe only where needed. The south wall of the addition is set flush with the south gable of the main building and projects 12'-11" to the east, and 18'-4" to the north. Following her purchase of the property in 1953, Martha Leitch altered the east side of the garret story of the main house. The original, true story-and-a-half form had carried the side walls of the house 2'-0" above the garret floor level, but in the 1950s the east wall was raised another 3'-0", reducing the roof pitch from 40 degrees to 20. This provided additional head room in the garret chambers, and made room for a pair of three-over-three windows to provide additional light. In the 1970s, the lean-to addition was extended across the rest of the east elevation. Early materials still visible on the southern lean-to include the stone foundation and a door in the south wall.

FIGURE 11-5. *View from northeast. Lean-to additions conceal much of the east elevation, facing Broad Run. The southern portion of the lean-to (to the left) dates to the 1850s while the northern part was added in the 1970s.*

Architectural Description: Interior

The first-story interior was opened into a single large, rectangular room with an exposed joist ceiling, most likely in 1953. A re-built stair rises against the east wall near the center of this space, and a fireplace is centered on the south gable wall. The interior has been renovated and most visible materials are twentieth century. However, a good deal of evidence survives from the early periods, some still readily visible and other elements accessible from the cellar and attic crawl spaces.

The exposed joist ceiling reveals two periods of framing material. The joists of the original structure are hewn and pit-sawn, measure about 3½" wide by 6" deep, and retain evidence of a lath and plaster ceiling. The joists at the south end of the building are circular sawn and do not bear evidence of ceiling lathing. While circular-sawn framing is found in Buckland as early as the 1850s, in this case the framing is likely part of a major repair necessitated by a fire that caused extensive damage in the south end of the building, and the lack of plaster evidence suggests that this repair may have been made in 1953 by Martha Leitch.

The ceiling framing also reveals the original plan of the period I structure—a large rectangular room to the north served as the commercial space,

and a smaller room to the south served as the counting room. Evidence survives for several features typical of commercial store rooms of this period. The room was unheated, and had an exposed joist ceiling overlaid with beaded flooring. Beaded panel boards that now line the closet under the present stair are probably salvaged from the original interior partition, and bear ghost evidence of one-inch shelving from the store. The counting room was heated by a fireplace centered on the south gable wall; this chimney was demolished when the building was enlarged ca. 1850. The counting room also had a plaster ceiling rather than exposed joists; walls were presumably plastered as well.

FIGURE 11-6. *First-floor interior, facing north. The interior plan originally consisted of a heated counting room to the south and an unheated commercial store to the north. In the mid-nineteenth-century, the building was extended an additional ten feet to the south, and an outshut was added to the east. In 1953, Martha Leitch opened up the plan, exposed the ceiling joists, and rebuilt the stair.*

The stair location is probably original, but the stair has been rebuilt, most likely as part of a major renovation by Martha Leitch in 1953. The stair header that defines the top step is dropped into half-lap joints and is not tenoned or pinned, but appears to be original, as there is no evidence of an earlier opening in the ceiling framing. A secondary header that defines the northerly run of the stair is secured in place with wire nails and the joists are simply butted to it rather than notched or tenoned. The latter header presumably dates to the ca. 1953 rebuilding. The stair enclosure includes early beaded material, most likely recycled from an original partition. Several boards have paint ghosts suggestive of 1" shelving, indicating the paneling may have served as a cupboard enclosure, or perhaps as wall sheathing in the store to which the store shelving was nailed.

FIGURE 11-7. *Interior view facing southwest. The building was enlarged ten feet to the south in the mid-nineteenth century and a new chimney was constructed on the south gable.*

Several features in the ceiling joists are worth noting. Numerous nail holes in the sides of joists may be evidence of nails used to hang material from the ceiling when the building served as a store. Vacant half lap joints in the top edges of two joists just north of the stair header suggest the location of a second early header, but the joist space is too narrow for a stair, and there is no clear purpose for a header in this location.

A door at the north end of the west wall opens into the small, outshut room at the north end of the porch. The floor framing for this room, visible from the cellar, indicates it is probably an early addition, and may even have served as a secure, separate room for the post office. Local tradition holds that Martha Leitch converted this room to a bathroom in 1953, and the present toilet lid is dated May 21, 1953. The only early feature to survive in this space is the door, a double-thickness batten door similar to the door that serves the principal entrance. The present bathroom door measures just 2'-1½" wide by 5'-2½" high, and is constructed of diagonal beaded boards on the west or bathroom face and vertical beaded boards on the east face. It is hung on modern hardware and there are no ghosts of earlier hinges or locks, but the door appears to be cut down, and the west face has evidence of weathering, suggesting it may have been salvaged from an early, exterior door location elsewhere in the building.

The second story consists of a stair passage in the center flanked by a single chamber to north and south. These rooms were extensively renovated in 1953.

As noted previously, the eastern pitch of the roof was altered from 40 to 20 degrees, increasing the knee wall from 2'-0" to 5'-5". The building is a true story-and-a-half in form, so the knee walls are actually the exterior east and west walls. This, combined with the added height of the east wall makes the two chambers more commodious than usual for a house of this size, and the raised plane of the east roof also provided more room for the reconfigured stair. Shallow closets have been constructed along the west wall of both chambers and the stair passage. At the back of these closets, recycled wide flooring planks have been used as horizontal sheathing. This material is beaded and has tongue-and-groove edges, more typically associated with partition boards, but ghosts in the whitewash delineate original joist locations, and the beaded edges indicate these are floorboards salvaged from the original second story of this building, consistent with a well-finished, exposed joist ceiling.

FIGURE 11-8. *South bedchamber. The second story was extensively renovated in 1953, but early fabric survives in the kneewalls and in the crawl space above the east lean-to.*

A full cellar extends under the original, period I structure, and a crawl space extends an additional 10 feet to the south, marking the extent of the first period of change, when an additional bay was added to the south (ca. 1850). This alteration is easily discernible—the original south foundation wall and the south chimney were demolished down to grade, and seams clearly mark the transition from period I foundation to period II. The base of the original chimney is visible at grade in the crawl space and part of the original gable sill remains in place. The cellar is now entered through a door in the east wall, accessible from the cellar under the later southeast addition. Seams in the stonework indicate that an original, broadly proportioned cellar door was located near the center of the east wall, but this was blocked up at a later date.

The period I cellar ceiling framing is almost entirely intact and includes hewn sills, sash-sawn joists and both pit-sawn and sash-sawn flooring. The sill for the east wall measures 8½" wide by 7½" deep, while the original south gable sill measures 8" wide and 7½" deep. The ceiling joists run from east to west and measure 4" wide by 8" deep. The original flooring is concealed from above by twentieth-century flooring, but is visible from the cellar. Floorboards range from 6½" to 11" wide, and are gauged and undercut with a mixture of tongue-and-groove and plain, butted joints. Joists are whitewashed throughout the cellar, and the bottom face of the flooring is whitewashed at the north and south ends, but not in the center bays. There is no evidence of an interior cellar stair.

Due to the sloping site, the southeast outshut (period II, ca. 1850) was constructed with an at-grade cellar room. This space measures about 11'-8" east to west and 17'-0" north to south (inside dimensions). The room is formed with a combination of low stone foundation walls and roughly worked pole construction—corner posts are hewn on two sides rather than four, and the exposed, whitewashed ceiling joists are simply hewn flat on top. Plaster has been applied directly to the masonry foundation walls and to the wall framing with circular-sawn lathing secured with machine-made cut nails.

The first-floor room in the outshut today serves as the kitchen. An early door opening in the south wall of this room is fitted with a door that is similar to the main door on the west elevation—it is constructed with a double layer of random-width beaded boards, the exterior boards set diagonally and the interior boards set vertically, reinforced with three horizontal battens with beveled edges. However, it differs from the west door in three respects: the beaded boards are narrower (5½" to 6"), it is hung on cast-iron butt hinges rather than hand-forged straps, and the exterior surface lacks the tack damage from posting public notices. The 4", five-knuckle butt hinges are stamped with a manufacturer's name that is illegible without removing paint, but they are likely to be Baldwin Patent hinges, typically found in contexts dating to the 1840s and 1850s. Ghost evidence on the interior face of the door reveals the location of an early rim lock and two slide bolts of different periods,

and the door is still secured with a wrought-iron bar set in iron staples, supplemented by a modern lock-set and slide bolt. This door opening is framed with plain, 3½" trim with a distinctive, 1½" backband having a beveled profile dating to the latter part of the Greek revival period, 1840s to 1850s. A nearly identical backband has also been identified on the parlor door in the Buckland Tavern. In both cases, this trim is associated with mid-nineteenth century modifications to earlier buildings.

An access scuttle in the east wall of the north bedchamber on the second story of the main house provides access into a crawl space formed by the lean-to roof of the two eastern additions. The roof of the ca. 1970s addition serves to protect the twentieth century wood siding that elsewhere is concealed by modern vinyl siding. The wood siding is plain, with approximately 5" of exposure, and applied with wire nails. To the south, this twentieth century siding also extends along the north wall of the nineteenth century outshut. From the crawl space in the roof of the outshut, a limited view is possible of the wall framing for the southern portion of the main building. The southeast corner of the period I building is defined by a break in the top plate of the east wall, secured with a pinned and tenoned corner post. A double-struck nail, typical of the early nineteenth century, was recovered from the end of a period I joist. The framing for the southern addition to the main building is also evident, with charring to timbers. The wall studs for this addition are round poles hewn on the interior and exterior faces, a framing variant that seems to have been almost universally used in Buckland by the 1850s and continued in use through the end of the nineteenth century.

NOTES

[1] A list of postmasters for Buckland includes the following owners of this property: William Brooks, Miranda Chappell, Orlando Glasscock, and Lassie Glasscock. Bureau of the First Assistant Postmaster General: Records of the Division of Postmasters (microfilm series), National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.

[2] Martha Leitch, "Buckland, Prince William County, Virginia." *Echoes of History*, Newsletter of the Pioneer America Society, vol. 3, no. 6 (November 1973), pp.81-87. For reference to Deerlick Cottage, see p. 84-85; for origin of the name "Deerlick," see p. 81. Martha Leitch died in 2005 and the property is now in probate.

[3] Leitch, p. 84.

[4] John and Elizabeth Love to Francis Hawley, part of Lot 29, February 2, 1799, Prince William County Deed Book Z, folio 413.

[5] Francis and Sarah Hawley to John Taylor, Jr., March 16, 1800, Deed Book 1, folio 156.

[6] Samuel Hudson to William Brooks, November 6, 1811, Deed Book 4, folio 434. The transaction by which Hudson acquired the lot has not yet been located.

[7] John Love to William Brooks, February 26, 1812, Deed Book 4, folio 436.

[8] John Love to Samuel Love, Jr., October 10, 1798, Deed Book B, folio 391-392.

[9] Samuel Love, Jr., to John Taylor, Jr., September 4, 1799, Deed Book 1, folio 10-11. On May 20, 1800, John and Elizabeth Love conveyed extensive holdings in Buckland to John Taylor, Jr. to secure a debt. Included in the list of lots is "part of Lot 28." See Deed Book 1, folio 208.

[10] Tax assessments for Buckland for the period 1799-1877 have been transcribed for the Buckland Preservation Society by David Blake. The 1801 assessment also includes a listing for "John Taylor Jr…House & Lot in Buckland $100…" The highest valuation in 1801 is for George Britton's tanyard, $150.

[11] John Taylor, Jr. to Josiah Watson, July 20, 1811, Deed Book 4, folio 347.

[12] Based on tax listings, the property remained in the Watson family until the 1850s, but listings in 1831-1846 refer to "Josiah Watson Estate." By 1860 Lot 28 had passed to Enoch B. Walls.

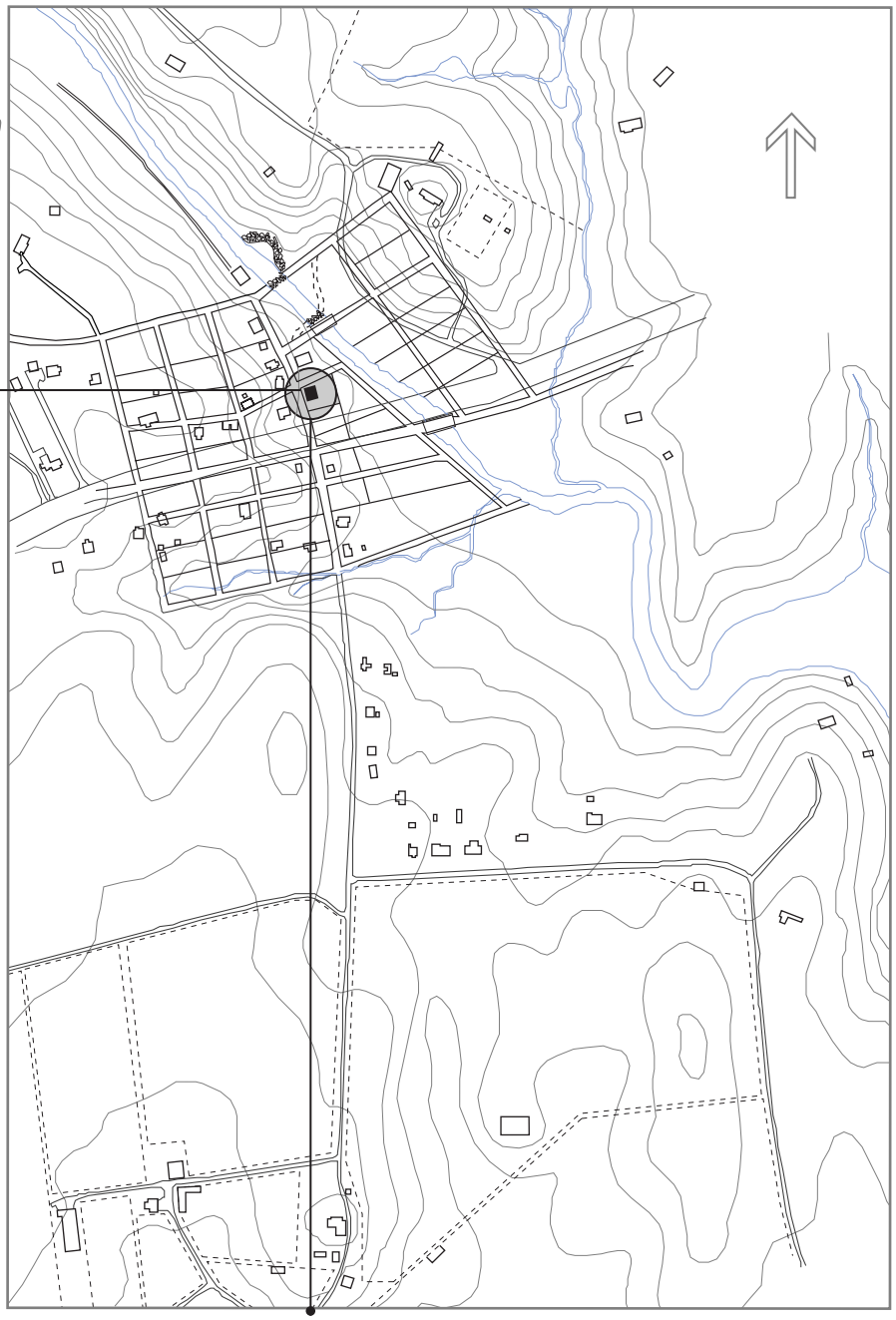
[13] Miranda Chappell to Orlando J. Glasscock, January 1, 1870, Deed Book 28, folio 10. Deed research by Stephen Fonzo for Buckland Preservation Society.

[14] The real estate of O. J. Glasscock was reported to the clerk as delinquent on July 1, 1878, and finally sold at auction on August 2, 1886. A deed confirming Lassie Glasscock's ownership was not filed until December 18, 1891. Research notes, Stephen Fonzo, for BPS.

[15] Leitch, p. 84.

[16] See Leitch, p. 84, and R. Jackson Ratcliffe, *This Was Prince William* (Leesburg, Virginia: Potomac Press, 1978), pp. 106-107.

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE REPORT 12



Dr. Brown House

8115 Buckland Mill Road

DHR No. 76-115

ca. 1850s; ca. 1870; ca. 1970

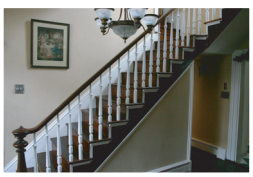
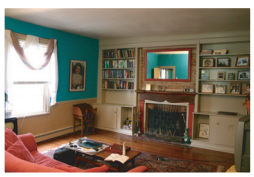





Figure 12-1. *View from southwest. The southern two-thirds of this house (the center and right bays) was constructed in the 1850s. The northern third was built after the Civil War, incorporating material from an early nineteenth century building.*

Significance

The Dr. Brown House was constructed in the 1850s as a two-story, two-bay dwelling house with a side-passage, single-parlor plan. In the decade or so following the Civil War, it was enlarged to the north adding one room on each floor and incorporating building materials from an early nineteenth-century structure. Around this same time, a one-story addition with a false commercial front was added to the south end of the house; this structure served as a medical office for two doctors at different times. While the latter wing was demolished sometime after 1973, photographic images document a structure that played an important role in Buckland in the latter part of the nineteenth-century. The roof of the 1850s house is constructed with hewn pole rafters, an early example of this tradition in Buckland, and possibly evidence that the house was built by Leslie Sanders and Thornton Brown, who signed the pole rafter roof of the Buckland Church in 1856. When the house was enlarged after the war, pole rafters were intermixed with early nineteenth-century framing salvaged from another structure. Other significant features include the matched brick chimneys with corbelled caps, the bracketed cornice, and an array of architectural trim documenting two periods of building in the latter half of the nineteenth-century.

Historical Summary

The Dr. Brown House is located on the east side of Buckland Mill Road immediately to the north of the intersection with Lee Highway. The house stands on Lot 30 in the original plan of the town, and faces what was originally designated Mill Street. The house is built into the hill that rises from the banks of Broad Run, so the stone foundation forms a full cellar, fully exposed on the east or river side and almost entirely below grade on the west or Mill Street side. The house is of frame construction, two stories high and one room deep. It has a rectangular plan and gable roof oriented on the north-south axis. Exterior brick chimneys rise at the center of both the north and south gable ends. It is clear from the exterior evidence that the house evolved in four principal periods of construction; framing material also survives from an earlier structure, incorporated into the period II addition. The original building forms the south portion of the house—a two-bay, two-story dwelling house with architectural details likely dating to the 1850s. It measures 16 feet deep and 26 feet long.

The house can be documented in this form by reference to a drawing prepared by Civil War illustrator Alfred Waud to document the battle that took place at Buckland on October 19, 1863. Waud's panoramic view of the town, facing southwest from the heights of Cerro Gordo, includes a clear, unobstructed view of the Brown House. Waud portrays it as a two-story, two-bay structure with an exterior chimney centered at the south end of a moderately pitched gable roof. Single windows are centered on the north gable at the first and second stories, and a partially visible entrance porch indicates the front door is located in the north bay of the west elevation, facing Mill Street. Light, horizontal lines indicate the house is of frame construction with weatherboard siding. All of these details are consistent with the extant, period I portion of the house.

Sometime after the war, most likely in the late 1860s or early 1870s, the Brown House was enlarged 18 feet to the north, extending the full height from cellar to attic. This later section was executed with details that closely match the original house, indicating a date soon after the Waud drawing was executed. This addition incorporates elements of a building that predates even the period I house. These elements include the sills, joists, and flooring at first floor level and the majority of the rafters in the roof. While the

roof framing is clearly in a re-used context (as will be discussed in more detail), the early floor framing and flooring are remarkably coherent, and but for the Waud drawing, it would seem reasonable to assume that the period II wing incorporates a small, one-room house of the early nineteenth century. However, Waud offers no hint of this arrangement, so either the Waud drawing omits this structure, or an early building from nearby was incorporated into the expanded house in the decade or so after 1863.[1]

Figure 12-2. *View from the southeast, with 1970s addition in the foreground.*

Sometime after the Civil War, a lean-to addition was made to the south gable end of the house. This wing appears in photographs taken in Buckland around 1950 by Grace Bear, then the owner of the Buckland Tavern.[2] It was of frame construction, one story high and one room deep, with a squared-off, false-front on the west or street façade, concealing the shed roof that is pitched from north to south. The entrance door is centered on the west façade, with access by a plain set of wooden steps; a six-over-six window is located to the left of the door. The south elevation is also visible in the photographs, and is uninterrupted by openings. The wing is sheathed with plain horizontal siding; the roof is covered with standing-seam metal and the eaves are boxed in.

Local historian Martha Leitch notes that the south wing was still standing in 1973, and had served as a doctor's office for two of the owners:

> Just south of Deerlick Cottage on Mill Street is another fine old place restored by Mrs. Nathalie Roberts, with an addition put on by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Campbell. It has been the home of two of Buckland's doctors, Doctor Kerfoot and Dr. J. G. Brown. The office, still on the south side, is where the good doctors felt pulses, gave out pills, set broken bones, and performed operations.[3]

The south wing was demolished sometime after 1973, but a ghost outline is visible in the red-washed brick of the south chimney. The addition attributed by Leitch to the Campbells most likely is the one-story frame addition on the east side of the enlarged house. The present owner dates this alteration to about 1970; this addition includes a large kitchen, an additional bedchamber and bath, and a porch at first-story level, as well as storage and family space in the fully exposed cellar.

Architectural Description: Exterior

The original, 1850s house measures 16'-4" deep on the east-west axis and 26'-2" on the north-south axis. This side-passage, single-parlor plan house was enlarged shortly after the Civil War by the construction of a two-story addition to the north gable, adding one room on each floor to create a center-passage plan. The front entrance is located in the north bay of the original, west elevation, with a large six-over-six window in the south bay, two six-over-six windows on the second story, and a cellar window with twentieth-century, paired two-light casements in the south bay of the foundation. The door is generously proportioned, consisting of a single four-panel door opening inwards from the south jamb, flanked by two-light sidelights below a four-light transom. It is hung on cast hinges typical of the third quarter of the nineteenth century and is fitted with a reproduction brass rim lock. A patch indicates the location of an earlier (probably original) mortise lock.

The door opening is framed with symmetrical trim that includes a peaked central element, Gothic in profile, above plain plinth blocks and terminating at the top with plain, square corner blocks. The exterior face of the door is embellished with boldly raised and applied moldings; the heads of the two top panels are segmentally arched. Single panels below the sidelights are trimmed with ogee panel molds that terminate in a beveled surface. The latter molding and the door details came into fashion with the Italianate style in the late 1850s, while the symmetrical door trim and plain corner

blocks are more typical of the late Greek Revival period (1840s and 1850s), and the peaked central element hints at the rise of Gothic Revival elements, also in the 1840s and 1850s. Together, this combination of details indicates an entrance composition of the 1850s, consistent with other dating evidence for the period I house. A one-bay entrance porch provides shelter for the door. This porch is consistent in appearance with the late Greek Revival period and may be the porch portrayed by Alfred Waud, but the crisp detailing of the columns suggests the porch may have been repaired or partially rebuilt in the latter half of the twentieth century.

The first-story window opening in the period I section of the house measures 2'-10½" wide by 5'-6¼" high, with 12" by 15" panes. It is framed with plain 4" trim and a 3" wood sill. The second-story windows are the same size rather than being graduated, and match in every detail. All three windows are fitted with louvered shutters that are through-tenoned and pinned, indicating they most likely date to the late nineteenth century or earlier. A single six-over-six window is centered in the west wall of the north addition at the first and second stories; and a small cellar window is fitted with a pair of twentieth-century two-light casements. The cellar and first story windows match the earlier house in every detail, but the second story window is smaller than its counterpart to the south. While the trim details are repeated, the window opening measures 2'-8½" by 4'-5½" and the sash incorporate smaller, 10" by 12" panes.

The period I portion of the west elevation is sheathed with narrow weatherboard siding with 4½" to 5" exposure, secured with mature, machine-made nails of the type commonly used from the 1830s to the 1880s. A 4" corner board serves to trim out the corners of the building, and the seam between periods I and II is clearly defined by the original corner board, which survives at second-story level. The period II section of this elevation is sheathed with matching 4½" to 5" siding at first story, but the second-story siding tends to be wider, perhaps 5" to 7." The eaves are trimmed with a plain fascia and soffit that projects approximately 12" beyond the plane of the wall above a 14" or 15" frieze embellished with scroll-sawn brackets. The brackets are widely spaced—there are 14 in the 44-foot length of the house—and are positioned to flank the window openings, which are immediately below the frieze. While an overshot cornice can be demonstrated to date to period I (by evidence in the attic), the brackets are typical of the Italianate period and are more likely to have been added during the second period of construction a decade or so later. The roof is standing seam-metal.

The south gable of the original house measures 16'-4" across, with a 5'-5" wide by 1'-9" deep exterior chimney centered on this elevation. A window in the west bay of the first story is the only opening in this wall. This opening is probably not original, but was cut in as a door to provide direct access from the house to the south addition. When the lean-to was demolished, the door was replaced with a single 12-light sash, and siding was added to conceal any trace of the door on the exterior. The evidence for a door is more obvious from the inside. Further indication of the missing lean-to may be seen in the chimney, which retains a soft red finish of paint or tinted limewash on the portion that was protected by the addition. The chimney corbels to form shoulders at the level of the attic floor joists (indicating an original fireplace in the second-story chamber). It is laid in 7:1 American bond with a lime-based mortar and plain joints above a rubble stone foundation. The seven-course bond and ornamental, modillion-course chimney cap match the details of the chimney on the north gable, suggesting both date to period II, although the two periods of work are close enough in age that the same mason could have executed the chimneys a decade or so apart. It is also worth noting the similarity to the rebuilt chimney on the Buckland Tavern across the street.

The south gable matches the front or west elevation in its detailing. The siding is plain, with 4½ to 5" exposure, secured with machine nails and trimmed with plain, 4" corner boards. The gable eaves are finished with a wide, plain frieze that returns at the corner, below a plain soffit that projects about 13" beyond the plane of the wall. The projecting eaves are boxed in with a crown mold applied to a plain fascia; there are no brackets applied to the frieze. The infill siding used to close up the door to the demolished wing is a good match with the adjacent, original siding, suggesting it may have been salvaged from the east side of the house when that addition was constructed.

The north gable is similar in most details to the south gable. An exterior chimney is centered on this gable wall, measuring 5'-5" wide by 1'-6½" deep.

The brickwork is laid in 7:1 American bond above a rubble stone foundation, and terminates with the same decorative dentil-course cap found on the south chimney, but shoulders in at second-story level, indicating the second-story chamber has always lacked a fireplace. A pair of small louvered vents flank the chimney in the upper gable—these are the only openings in this end of the house. The lapped siding is plain, with 4½ to 5" of exposure and plain, 4" corner boards. The gable eaves oversail by 10 to 12" and are embellished with two brackets applied to the frieze on both sides of the chimney.

On the east elevation, facing Broad Run, the cellar story originally was fully exposed due to the sloping site, but a modern addition of the 1970s now conceals both the cellar and first story from view. At second-story level, there are two six-over-six windows in the period I (south) portion, and a single six-over-six window to the north, in the period II section. The siding and cornice match the front elevation with one exception—there are only 11 brackets on this elevation, compared with 14 on the front, and they flank the window opening of the southern section but are placed without regard to the northern window. The twentieth century addition extends the full length of the house and projects 16 feet to the east. A porch extends another 8 feet to the east across this addition.

Interior Description

The original room arrangement consisted of a side-passage, single-parlor plan, with the passage located to the north and the parlor to the south. This was expanded to a center-passage plan when the house was enlarged to the north, shortly after the Civil War. The passage is 9'-6" wide and extends the full depth of the single-pile house. The stair rises against the north wall to a landing, turns 90 degrees to the south and continues up to the second story. When the two-story addition was made to the north, a secondary set of steps was added that rise from the landing to the north chamber. The main stair is open-string with 7½" risers and 10¼" treads, a boldly turned newel post, slender turned balusters (two per step), and simple molding below each tread applied to a plain stringer. The area below the stringer is plaster rather than paneled, and is outlined with a band of beveled Italianate trim. This same Italianate detail serves as the primary molding for the baseboard trim, and as the panel mold for the front door and the panels below the sidelights. The stair dates to period I with the exception of the period II steps that rise from the landing to the north chamber.

Figure 12-3. *Staircase and passage. The stair rises against the north wall of the passage, originally serving a bedchamber to the south and an unheated chamber at the west end of the second-story passage. When the house was enlarged to the north, a second set of steps was added, rising to the north from the landing to a new bedchamber.*

The interior face of the front door is plainer than the exterior—the four-panel door is trimmed with panel molds but lacks the bold, applied arches of the exterior face. Italianate architrave trim is consistent for the front door, the door at the east end of the passage, and the interior door that opens into the south parlor—now the dining room. This suggests that the door at the east end of the passage is original and must have opened onto a porch or into an earlier service wing. The door in the north wall of the passage, opening into the early addition, is trimmed with an architrave that matches trim in the added north room rather than the original passage. A damaged floorboard in the passage provides a limited view of floor framing below. The joists run north-south across the passage and are circular-sawn; the flooring is 5 to 5½" wide, made of southern yellow pine, with tongue-and-groove edge joints.

The south room, dating to period I, now serves as the dining room. A fireplace is centered on the south gable wall, fitted with an Italianate mantel that seems to be original to period I. A seam in the floor suggests the present brick hearth may have been reduced in size from 2'-11½" by 5'-2½" to the present size of 1'-9½" by 5'-4". While this might be interpreted as evidence of an earlier chimney that projected into the room, there is no framing evidence in the attic to support a different chimney configuration. At some point a door was cut

through the south gable wall to the right of the fireplace to provide direct interior access to provide direct access to Dr. Brown's office wing. When that wing was demolished, the door was converted to a window with a large, fixed sash. An original window in the east wall of the parlor was replaced with a door that opens into the 1970s addition. The dentil block cornice in this room dates to the latter half of the twentieth century.

FIGURE 12-4. *South parlor. In the 1850s, this was the only public room, and must have served as both parlor and dining room. In the post Civil War period, a door to the right of the fireplace provided access to a frame wing that served as a medical office. When this wing was demolished sometime after 1973, the door was converted to a win-*

The north room on the first floor dates to the second period of construction, shortly after the Civil War, but is supported by floor framing that seems clearly to be earlier than this addition and even the period I house. This room would have provided a second public room on the first floor, and today serves as a family room. A fireplace centered on the north gable wall is fitted with a simple, post-Civil War mantel. Original openings include two doors in the south wall and a single window in the west wall. Both of the south doors open into the stair passage—the west door is the principal opening, while a door at the far east end of the wall provides a secondary point of access behind the stair. An original window in the east wall was converted into a door, providing access to the 1970s east addition. Original, random-width flooring in this room has been overlaid with narrow pine tongue-and-groove flooring, and floor-to-ceiling book cases have been added on the east and north walls.

The second story originally consisted of a stair passage to the north and a single, heated bedchamber to the south. The west end of the passage was partitioned to form a small unheated closet or dressing room that now serves as a modern bathroom. When the house was enlarged to the north, the staircase was modified to provide access from the landing to a large but unheated bedchamber to the north. Architrave trim is consistent for all windows and doors in the south chamber, the passage, and the room at the west end of the passage. Curiously, the trim for the door from the stair passage to the later, north chamber matches the period I trim, but within the north chamber, all trim is plain and clearly later. Doors in the period I rooms are four-panel, with lightly raised panels, hung on butt hinges and fitted with plain, manufactured rim locks. The door to the north chamber is also four-panel, but with flat panels, hung on butt hinges and fitted with a rim lock stamped "J & N." Narrow, tongue-and-groove flooring in the north chamber is similar to the second layer of flooring in the north room on the first floor. It is also noteworthy that the floor in the south chamber includes a seam that suggests a larger hearth—in this case indicating a hearth that was reduced in size by about 9", versus 14" on the first floor.

FIGURE 12-5. *First floor, north room. This part of the house was built in the years after the Civil War, but incorporates material that dates to the early nineteenth century.*

An unfinished attic extends the full length of the enlarged house, accessible today via a folding stair installed in the ceiling of the second-story passage. The period I roof is constructed of barked poles joined in common rafter pairs. The rafters are mitered and nailed at the ridge, a joining technique that comes into fashion after about 1850, and they are mitered and nailed at the base to flat false plates. The rafter pairs are not reinforced with collar beams or kneewall studs, and are set at a 36- to 39-degree pitch. Gable framing survives for both ends of the period I roof. The studs

are circular-sawn and are mitered to the undersides of the gable rafter pairs and nailed with mature, machine-made nails. Nail holes and one mature cut nail survive from the original exterior siding of the period I north gable; this siding was removed when the north addition was constructed. The overshot eave detail clearly dates to period I, as framing survives for this feature at both ends of the period I roof—the north gable eaves are incorporated into the roof framing of the period II addition. The roof sheathing and the sheathing for the overshot eaves is circular sawn and nailed with mature machine nails. Attic floor joists, where accessible, are also circular sawn. The roof evidence, then, supports the conclusion that the first-period structure dates to the 1850s—mitered pole rafters are typical of mid-century work in Buckland, as is the use of mature cut nails and circular-sawn sheathing.

FIGURE 12-6. *Attic of the main house, facing south. The roof is constructed of barked poles hewn flat on top, mitered at the ridge and nailed with mature, machine-cut nails. This roof closely matches the roof of the Buckland Church, and may also be the work of Leslie Sanders and Thurston Brown, who signed the church roof in 1856.*

The roof of the period II addition includes early, recycled framing material, mixed with material prepared specifically for this project. The early material includes hewn and pit-sawn rafters with plaster scars on the bottom face. These rafters are used in conjunction with barked poles that are similar to the period I roof. Regardless of the age and finish of the rafters, they are mitered at the ridge and spiked together, a technique that comes into fashion in the 1850s and becomes the predominate ridge detail in the post-bellum period. Roof sheathing in this section is circular sawn, and the inside face of the exterior siding on the north gable reveals circular saw marks as well. Thus despite the generous use of early nineteenth-century material, this roof structure post-dates 1850 and is consistent with a ca. 1870 date of construction for period II.

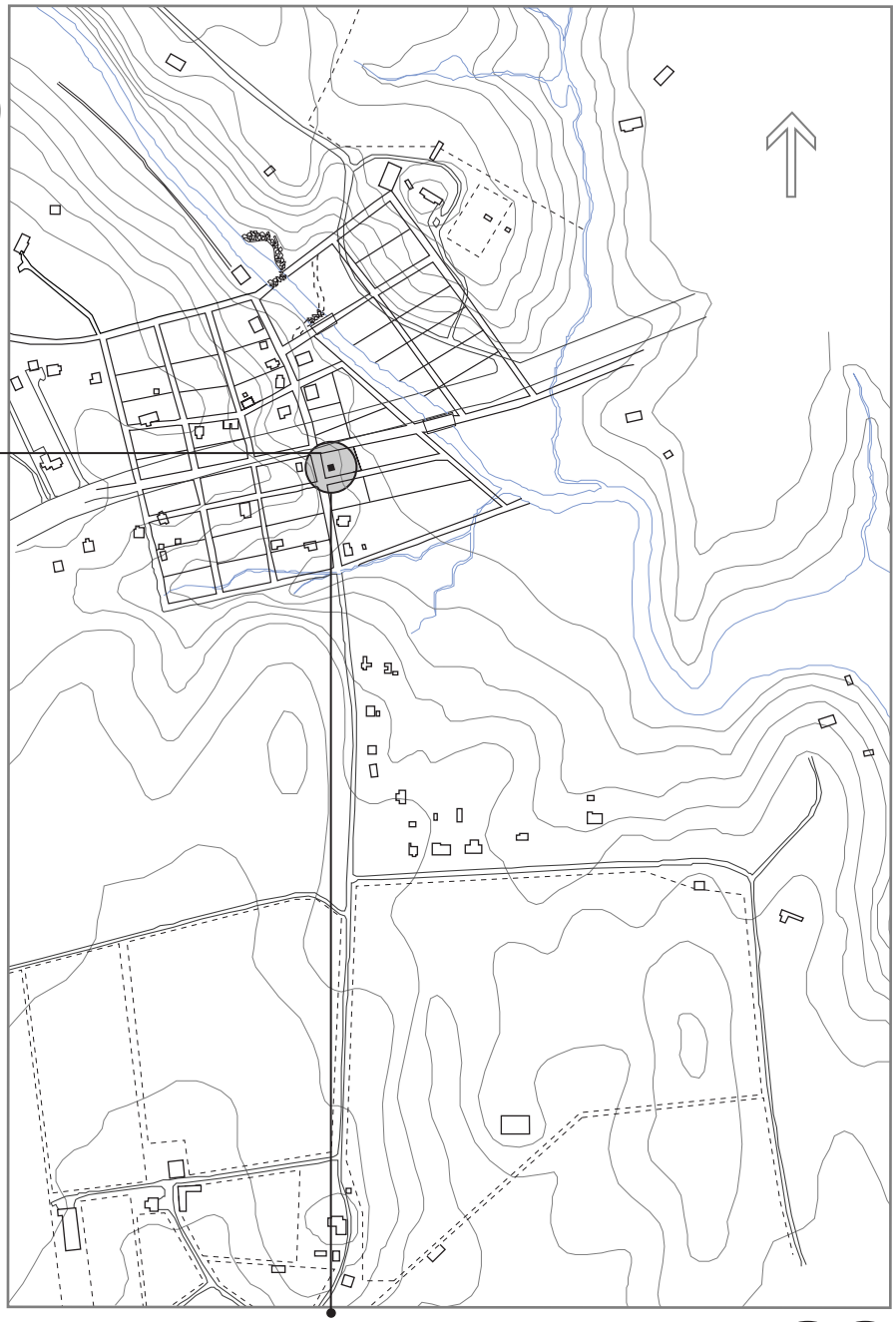
NOTES

[1] The National Register nomination for the Buckland Historic District proposes that the main house was "constructed in the first quarter of the 19th century and enlarged and remodeled ca. 1884 and again in the 20th century…" (Section 7, p. 2.) The source for the 1884 date is not provided, but this date is not inconsistent with the building evidence and future documentary research may clarify the specific date for this work.

[2] The photographs passed to Thomas J. Ashe, Jr. in 1975 when he purchased the Buckland Tavern from the estate of Grace Bear.

[3] Martha Leitch, "Buckland, Prince William County, Virginia." *Echoes of History*, Newsletter of the Pioneer America Society, vol. 3, no. 6 (November 1973), p. 85.

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE REPORT 13



BUILDING ON LOT 33

8201 BUCKLAND MILL ROAD

mid-1950s



Figure 13-1. *View from northwest. This one-room frame building was constructed in the 1950s and served for a time as an antique store.*

Significance

This small, one-story frame building was constructed shortly after the expansion of Lee Highway to a dual-lane road in 1953. It served for some time as an antique shop and in more recent years as a storage building. It is representative of utilitarian construction from the post-World War II period, with exposed frame construction on the interior and what is believed to be the original asphalt-shingle siding applied over flush board sheathing. The building is in poor condition, with little likelihood of rehabilitation.

Historical Summary

This small frame building is located on Lot 33 in the original plan of Buckland, directly across Buckland Mill Road from the John Trone House. According to the current owner, Tom Ashe, Marian Turner operated an antique shop in this building. Turner's sister, Martha Leitch, owned Deerlick Cottage (on Lot 29) until her death in 2005. When Mr. Ashe moved to Buckland in 1975, the shop had closed, and in 1980 it was purchased by Ashe's daughter, who sold it to her father about three years ago. It has been used as a storage building in recent years.[1]

The National Register nomination prepared for the Buckland Historic District in 1987 counts this structure as a contributing resource. However, the nomination form identifies the period of significance for the district as extending from "ca. 1800 – 1930s" and identifies the structure as "Mid-20th century."[2] Black-and-white photographs taken around 1950 by Grace Bear, owner of the Buckland Tavern, indicate that the shop building had not been constructed at that time.[3] Based on available evidence, the structure did not meet the 50-year age criteria for designation in 1987, was not constructed within the period of significance identified for the district, and should not have been counted as a contributing resource to the district.

If the building was constructed in the early 1950s, perhaps in response to the upgrade of Lee Highway to a dual-lane roadway in 1953, then the structure has now reached the 50-year threshold for consideration. However, the present architectural survey project was unable to build a case for either architectural or historical significance from available data. The building was described as in poor condition in 1988 and it has continued to decline since then. The following summary was hampered somewhat by heavy vegetation on the exterior of the building, and by its present use as a densely-filled storage building with a partially collapsed floor.

Figure 13-2. *View from southeast.*

Architectural Description: Exterior

This one-story frame building is rectangular in plan, oriented on the east-west axis with the north elevation parallel to Lee Highway and the west gable facing Buckland Mill Road. The building measures 16'-0" (north-south) by 18'-0" (east-west). The principal entrance is in the center of the north elevation, flanked by single windows to east and west. A second door is located in the south bay of the east gable wall. There

are two window openings in the south elevation and one in the center of the west gable. Both door openings are fitted with batten doors; the east door is an early example, whitewashed, with wide, beaded boards and two beveled battens, presumably recycled from an ante-bellum house. Remnants of two-over-two sash survive in one window; all other sash has been removed. The exterior is covered with asphalt shingle siding applied directly to flush board sheathing, suggesting that this is the original treatment. The moderately pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles as well; the rafters oversail at the eaves and are not trimmed out.

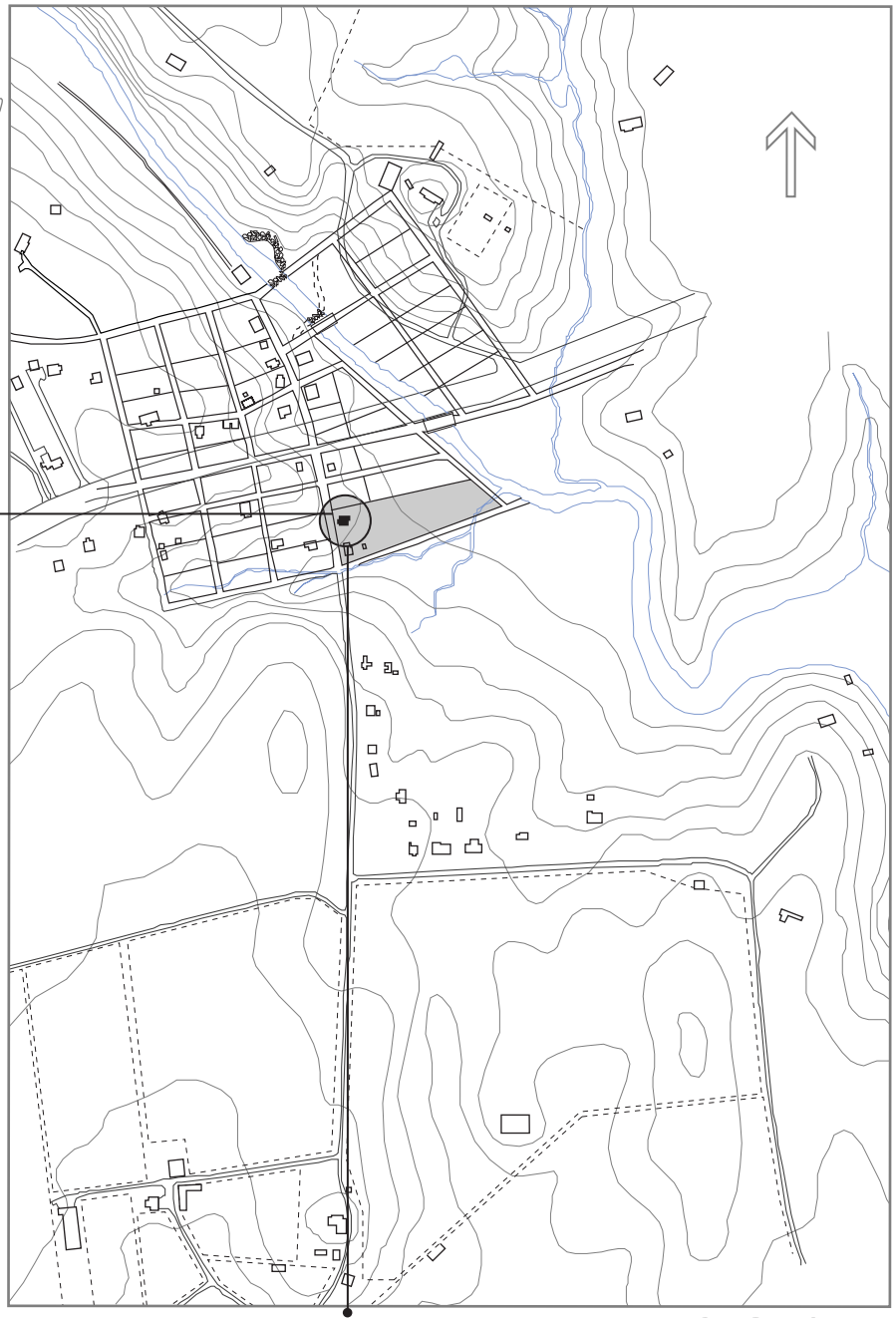
Architectural Description: Interior

The interior consists of a single, unfinished room, with the wall framing and ceiling joists left exposed. The framing material is stock dimensional lumber; the wall studs measure 1½" by 3½" rather than a full 2" by 4", further evidence that the structure is mid-twentieth century or later. The ceiling joists are 1½" by 5½"; the roof is framed with 2 by 4's that are mitered and nailed to a ridge board. The flooring is 5¼" tongue-and-groove, running east to west; the exterior walls are sheathed with 5 5/8" boards tightly butted and laid flush rather than lapped. There is no evidence of a stove chimney or heat source and the lack of interior finishes or insulation are further indications that the building was only intended for utilitarian purposes, and could have been used as a shop only in warm weather.

NOTES

[1] Interview with Thomas J. Ashe, Jr. by Orlando Ridout V, June 18, 2005.
[2] National Register nomination for Buckland Historic District, section 7, page 5.
[3] Photographs by Grace Bear are now owned by Thomas J. Ashe, Jr., who purchased the Buckland Tavern from the estate of Grace Bear in 1975.

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE REPORT 14



House at 8205 Buckland Mill Road

ca. 1850s; late twentieth-century



FIGURE 14-1. *Southwest view. The principal elevation faces west to Mill Street, and the site slopes very gently to the east, across fairly level bottom-land to the bank of Broad Run.*

SIGNIFICANCE

Located in close proximity to the site of Isaac Meeks' early nineteenth-century tanyard, this temple-form, true story-and-a-half building has a distinctive, side-passage plan with two staircases equal in quality. First-floor rooms originally were segregated on either side of a shared, central chimney stack, and the two second-story bedchambers are still entirely separate, each accessed by its own stair. This combination of features suggests the building was constructed as workers' housing for laborers or skilled workmen employed in one of the industrial businesses that characterized mid nineteenth-century Buckland, or possibly housed farm workers employed at Buckland Hall. This type of specialized housing is more typical of urban areas or intensely developed rural districts such as the coal towns along the George's Creek Valley in Western Maryland. Further research may reveal the occupations and familial profiles of the mid-nineteenth century residents—agricultural or industrial, skilled or unskilled, single or living as family units, Anglo-American, immigrant, or perhaps even free African American.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

This house is set gable end to Mill Street (now Buckland Mill Road) on an undesignated lot immediately to the south of Lot 34 on the original plan of Buckland. It is frame, a true story-and-a-half on a low, stone foundation, with the pitched gable roof oriented on the east-west axis. While modern additions, siding, and window details have obscured the significance of this building, even a cursory review of the form, plan and interior details reveals a late Greek Revival, temple-form house of a type usually associated with industrial workers' housing.

The through-passage with two staircases and segregated interior plan suggests the house was intended to serve as two separate living units, and possibly as four. While additional research will be necessary to identify the original builder and intended purpose, the house most likely was constructed in the 1850s at a time when architectural evidence indicates Buckland was undergoing a significant economic expansion. Industrial census data in particular should identify the full range of economic activity in the town, but the house faces the entrance road to Buckland Farm, in close proximity to the tanyard operated by Isaac Meeks earlier in the nineteenth century, and there were two grist mills and a woolen mill operating in Buckland at the time this house was constructed.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: EXTERIOR

The original house measures 21'-4½" across the west gable and 32'-4" along the north elevation. Two lean-to additions have been made to the building—a one-story, concrete-block additions projects 8'-0" from the rear or east gable, and a one-story frame addition projects 8'-9" and runs the full length of the south elevation. An open, shed-roof porch with a concrete slab floor extends across the west gable elevation.

The west gable serves as the front elevation. The principal entrance is located in the south bay, tight against the corner of the building; a six-over-six window is located in the north bay. The door opening is framed with a plain, classical surround—flat pilasters and bases with simple molded caps frame a modern six-panel door below an early five-light transom. There are two six-over-six windows on the second story and a louvered vent in the upper gable. The gable eaves are boxed-in, project about 8" beyond the plane of the wall, and return at the corners above plain 4" corner boards. The present siding is masonite or a similar late-twentieth century fiberboard, 11" wide; the windows and trim have been replaced as well.

Two six-over-six windows are the only openings

on the north elevation—one window providing light to each first-story room. The stone foundation is visible on this side of the house; the gently sloping site leaves 10" of foundation exposed at the west end, and 20" at the east end. On the east gable, the concrete block addition conceals the first story, but the present door at the east end of the interior passage is presumably an original exterior opening, and it seems likely there was a six-over-six window in the north bay of the first story, as on the front gable. Two six-over-six windows are symmetrically arranged on the second story. The south elevation is entirely concealed by the frame lean-to addition, but it seems likely that there were two six-over-six windows on this elevation to provide light for the passage. The boxed eave detail is repeated on the east gable, and all siding and window details are late twentieth century.

FIGURE 14-2. *West elevation view.*

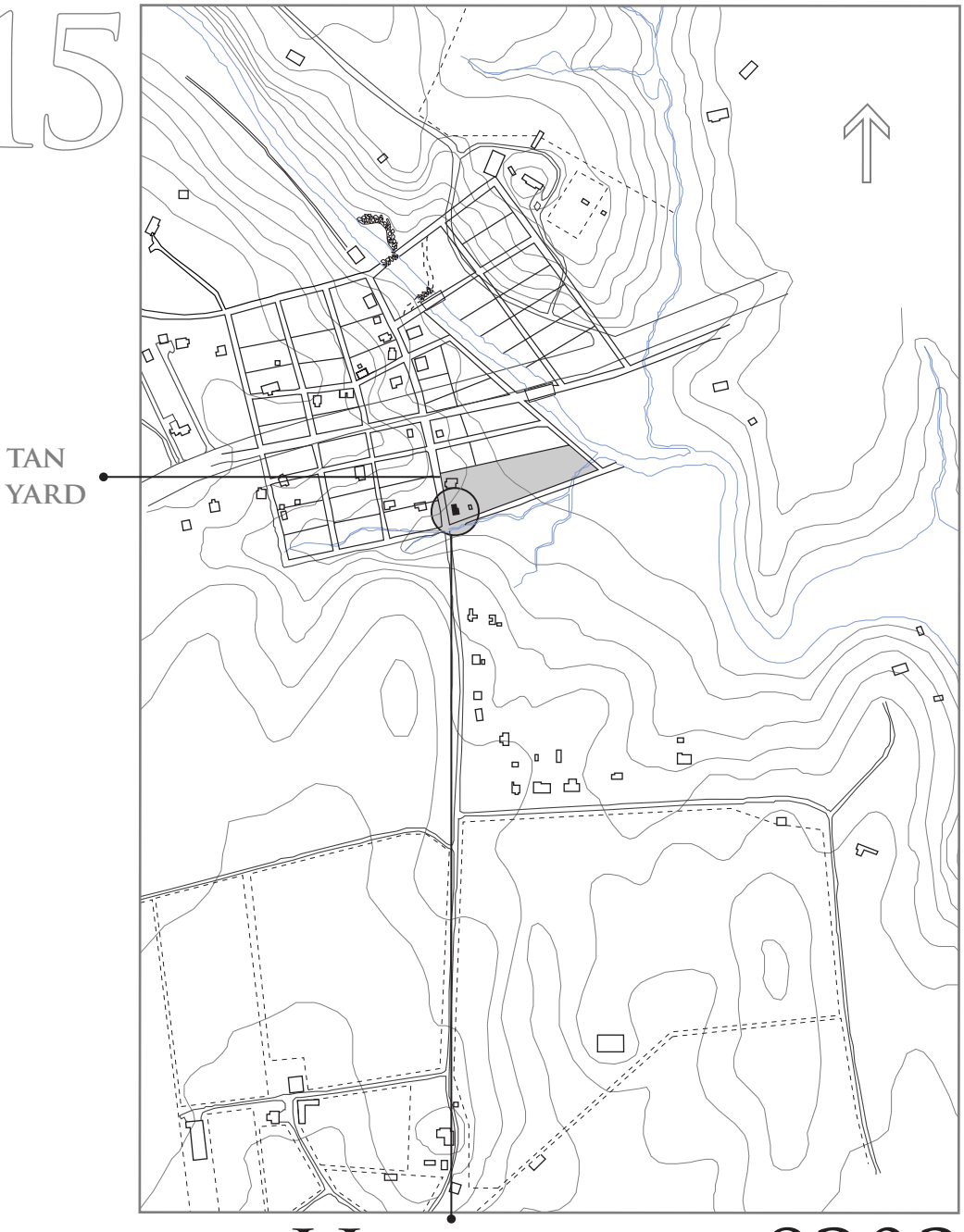
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: INTERIOR

The interior plan consists of a side passage that runs the full depth of the house along the south wall, with two rooms to the north, both opening onto the passage. There are two enclosed staircases opening onto the passage as well—one at the front or west end of the passage and the other at the east end. The two first-story rooms share a substantial central chimney, although the fireplace(s) have been blocked up. A door to the north of the chimney in the interior partition appears to be a later feature, suggesting that the two first-floor rooms functioned as separate living spaces. The two second-story rooms still are segregated, and can be reached only by the separate staircases.

The passage door openings are framed with 4" trim struck with a 3/8" bead; there is no ghosting to suggest the trim ever included a backband. Flooring and baseboard in the passage is twentieth century. Window trim in the front or west first-story room is replaced but the beaded baseboard is early. An original closet under the stair in the west room is fitted with a small batten door constructed of narrow, random-width beaded boards. All evidence of the original fireplace configuration is concealed by modern materials, but the chimney mass is clearly defined on the east side of the interior partition, projecting into the east room. The door between these two rooms is framed with plain rather than beaded trim, but does retain heavy paint build-up and hinge scars from a door that was hung on the north jamb and opened into the west or front room. A closet under the staircase in the east room retains its early, beaded batten door, and original flooring and plaster survive inside the closet.

The true story-and-a-half form of the house means the side walls continue up into the second story. This feature combined with the absence of a passage on the second story means that the second-story chambers are larger than the first floor rooms. These chambers have been renovated with twentieth-century materials, and roof framing visible from a scuttle in the ceiling of the west room is entirely modern, indicating the upper part of the house has been completely renovated in the latter part of the twentieth century.

ARCHITECTURAL
SITE REPORT 15



House at 8203 Buckland Mill Road

ca. 1850s; late twentieth-century



Figure 15-1. *View from the southwest. This two-story house was constructed in the 1850s, with extensive modifications in the late twentieth century.*

Significance

This house and the temple-form house immediately to the north provide a tangible record of an expansive period of Buckland's history in the middle of the nineteenth century. While the house to the north employs a plan clearly intended to serve more than a single family, this building is more ambiguous. The first floor is arranged in a conventional side-passage, single-pile plan, with parlor and kitchen to the south of the stair passage. A passage across the east side of the second story provides an unusual degree of separation for the three bedchambers, raising the possibility that this, too, was workers' housing. Attic floor framing indicates the building includes hewn pole construction of a type widely used in Buckland from the 1850s through the 1890s, most notably at the Buckland Church in 1856. Other notable details include the Greek Revival details of the principal stair and the beaded board partitions that enclose the attic stair.

Historical Summary

This house is located on an undesignated lot immediately to the south of Lot 34 on the original plan of Buckland. While access to the house was limited, key features indicate the building dates to the middle of the nineteenth century, and most likely is another example of the building boom that occurred in Buckland in the 1850s. Its physical proximity to the similarly dated house immediately to the north at 8205 Buckland Mill Road suggests the two buildings may be related in early ownership, but they share few similarities in form, plan, or construction materials. The more conventional first floor plan of this house is typical of single-family residences of the period, but the second-story plan is unconventional and seems to place a premium on separation of the second-story chambers. This may simply be an unusual variant for a single-family residence, or it may suggest that the house served as a boarding house for individual workers. Notable details include the simple Greek Revival stair of ca. 1850s and the evidence of pole construction, a practice that gained widespread use in Buckland in the 1850s and continued as a practice through the last decade of the nineteenth century.

Architectural Description: Exterior

This house is rectangular in form, two stories high on a low stone foundation, with the long axis of the pitched gable roof oriented parallel to Mill Street (now Buckland Mill Road). The principal elevation faces west to Mill Street, and the site slopes very gently to the east, across fairly level bottom-land to the bank of Broad Run. Based on the depth of the walls at the window openings, it is likely that the structure is of log construction, and the placement of the chimney suggests the house may have evolved in two periods of construction. Lacking the opportunity to examine the building in detail, and given the extent to which early fabric is concealed by modern materials, it is sufficient for now to summarize the basic form and details, and offer some speculation as to the building's development. The following description will assume that the house did reach its present form in two periods of construction, and was then enlarged in the twentieth century by a one-story, lean-to addition on the east side.

The period I house extends from the north gable end to the chimney, encompassing a side-stair passage across the north end of the house and a parlor to the south that originally was heated by a chimney centered on the south gable. At some later date, but evidently in the latter half of the nineteenth century, the house was enlarged by adding one room on each floor to the south of the original chimney gable. The principal entrance is in the north bay of the west wall with a single six-over-six window to the south, and two six-over-six windows symmetrically aligned on the second story. The period II addition to the south has a single six-over-

six window centered on the first and second stories. The house has been encased in recent years with 11" masonite or similar fiberboard siding, but earlier siding was left exposed where protected by an open, hipped-roof porch that stretches across the period I façade. This wood siding is plain, with perhaps 5" of exposure, and is secured with wire nails, indicating it is not the original covering. The roof of the main house is standing-seam metal; the porch roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

On the north gable, a vent in the upper gable is the only opening. On the east elevation, a one-story lean-to has been added to the southern portion of the main house. There are two windows on each floor now—a small bathroom window in the north bay of the first story, and six-over-six windows in the south bay of the period I house on the first story and both bays of the second story. The period II section to the south presumably had single six-over-six windows at first and second story, but the modern addition has obliterated the first floor opening. The small bathroom window clearly replaces an original door that would have been located at the east end of the stair passage. On the south gable of the enlarged house, a six-over-six window on the first story and a louvered vent in the upper gable are the only openings.

Architectural Description: Interior

The first-floor interior began as a side-passage, single-parlor plan, with the passage extending across the north gable end of the house. The parlor to the south was heated by a small chimney on the south gable. This plan was expanded later in the nineteenth century by adding one additional room to the south, sharing the existing chimney. This southerly room now serves as the kitchen. In more recent times, the east end of the stair passage was partitioned to create a first-floor bathroom, and the exterior door at the east end of the passage was altered to a window. One key feature survives on the first floor from the first period of construction. The stair rises against the north gable wall, and it is an open-string stair with a turned newel post, square balusters, and an elliptical-section handrail. The handrail and the newel post are typical of the Greek Revival period and are the most important, dateable features of the house accessible at this time.

On the second story, the stair opens onto a narrow passage that extends along the east side of the period I house, with doors opening into two chambers in the period I house and a third chamber located in the addition to the south. Sandwiched between the two northerly rooms is a steep ladder-stair to the attic enclosed with unpainted, beaded-board partitions secured with mature, machine-made nails typical of the period 1830s to 1880s.

The attic is floored but otherwise unfinished, and the roof is fully exposed. The roof is of common-rafter construction, but has been through a major repair. The rafters on the west plane of the roof are round poles flattened on top, while the rafters on the east plane are circular-sawn, stock lumber. The pole rafters show char damage, indicating the roof was damaged by fire and rebuilt, retaining the west half of the roof, and replacing the east half. The pole rafters appear to have been mitered at the ridge as originally constructed, a ridge detail typical of the 1850s and later, but the fire repair is difficult to date based on the evidence currently in hand. Also notable in the attic are the floor joists, which are round sleepers flattened on the top and bottom faces, and pinned to the wall plate with large wooden pins.

Sites with Archeological Potential

Thirteen of the fifteen historic structures in the Buckland Historic District date at least in part to the antebellum period and eleven of these can be identified in the Waud drawing of 1863. Approximately fifteen additional structures evident in the drawing are now archeological sites; only three of these appear to have been disturbed by twentieth-century highway construction. The majority of these lost structures can be identified with existing documentary research, and other sites that were previously unknown are enumerated in the property deeds and tax assessments.

The following archeological sites can be identified with some degree of certainty as to location and improvements; research is continuing on all of these sites. The sites are organized by lot number as articulated in the town plan of Buckland, followed by sites outside the town plan.

Lot No. 1: Samuel Love outbuildings and associated features.

> Samuel Love's store of ca. 1798 survives as the core of a larger, twentieth-century residence; a lean-to and at least two other structures that once stood on the lot are now archeological sites. These buildings are evident in the Waud drawing of 1863. The close proximity of the lean-to and one outbuilding to the northwest corner of Love's store suggest that they have suffered at least some damage from the construction of a one-story kitchen in the 1950s, and the 1988 kitchen that replaced that structure. The third structure was sufficiently removed from the modern construction that it may retain significant sub-surface features.

Lot No. 2: George Britton's Shop/James Hunton & Son Store House Site.

> Britton's shop is described in a deed for Lot No. 2 dated August 13, 1796. This is probably the 1½ story structure visible immediately to the south of Samuel Love's store in the 1863 panoramic view. A deed dated June 23, 1806, indicates that Lot No. 2 has been divided into two parts—the north half is sold on this date by George Britton to James Hunton for $400, and "is now occupied by James Hunton & Son and the house thereon by them as a Store house." By this date, Britton has sold the southern part of Lot No. 2 to James Taylor and it "has since become the property of Samuel Hudson who now occupies it."

Lot No. 2: William Brooks' Tavern outbuildings.

> The two-story frame residence known today as the Moss House was constructed by 1799 and by the late 1810s served as a tavern owned and operated by William Brooks. Outbuildings would have been a necessary part of that business, and the 1863 Alfred Waud panorama indicates as many as three small buildings clustered at the northwest corner of the main building.

Lot No. 3: Richard Gill Blacksmith Shop Site.

> By the time Richard Gill purchased Lot No. 3 on August 13, 1796, he was already living on the site. By March 30, 1799, he had also constructed a blacksmith shop, located at the southeast corner of the lot, where Elizabeth Street meets Mill Street. The southeast corner of the blacksmith's shop served as a point of reference in the boundary descriptions for adjacent lots. See for example a deed for Lot No. 6 dated March 30, 1799, and for Lot No. 4 dated October 3, 1799. Gill's blacksmith shop is noted again in the description for Lot No. 4 in a deed dated February 5, 1813, and also in a deed for Lot No. 5 executed on November 18, 1825.

Lot No. 3: Richard Gill House, associated features.

> On August 13, 1796, Richard Gill purchased Lot No. 3 from John & Elizabeth Love and Josiah Watson "that Tenement lot…whereon the said Richard Gill at present dwells." The house is noted in a deed dated November 1, 1855, when Gill's heirs sell the house and lots 3 and 12 to John B. Hunton. The house still stands, but the site holds high potential for pre-1900 outbuildings, wells, privy pits, trash pits, and other features.

Lot No. 5: Robert Thrift Store and Dwelling House Site.

On November 9, 1797, John and Elizabeth Love and Josiah Watson sold to Robert Thrift, for £12 Virginia Currency, Lot 5, "all that tenement lot…whereon the said Robert Thrift has built a Store & dwelling houses." When Robert and his wife Margaret sell the lot and house on November 18, 1825, to James Hulls for $425, the deed notes that it is "the lott whereon the said Hull now Resides." This deed also includes a reference in the boundary description to "the paved road." This lot was immediately to the south of the Buckland Tavern and now lies in the roadbed of Lee Highway.

Lot No. 6: William Draper's Shop Site.

On March 30, 1799, John and Elizabeth Love and Josiah Watson sold to William Draper for £12 Virginia currency "all that tenement lot… whereon the said William Draper hath at this time a shop." Draper sold the lot and shop on March 1, 1800, for £36 to William Hunton, Jr., who in turn sold the property to John Hampton for $120. By June 1825, Lot No. 6 is owned by John Love, and he sells it to John Trone for $75, noting that the lot has been reduced in size slightly by construction of "the New Turnpike road."

Lot No. 6: Stagecoach Inn Site.

The Stagecoach Inn was constructed on the south side of the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike on Lot No. 6, most likely in the 1820s; it was demolished in the 1930s. This building is visible in the 1863 panoramic view of Buckland; a ca. 1935 photograph provides a further record of its appearance in its final role as a service station.

Lot No. [6, or 32/33?]: John Trone Blacksmith Shop Site.

John Trone purchased Lot No. 6 from John Love in 1825 and built the 1½-story house that stands on this site today. Trone was a blacksmith and lay preacher, and his blacksmith shop is believed to have stood on the east side of Buckland Mill Road (Mill Street) just south of the turnpike. The 1863 view of the town indicates there were two buildings on this site in 1863. A third building is evident in the Waud view immediately to the south of Trone's house on Lot No. 6. John Trone, his wife, and their daughter are buried in the Buckland Church cemetery.

Lot No. 8, 9 and 37: Isaac Meeks' Tanyard Site.

The key transaction for this group of lots occurred on May 24, 1802, when George Britton sold Lot No. 9 with a tanyard to Peter Wise, Jr. for £100 Virginia currency. Britton had purchased the lot from the Trustees of Buckland for £12 on July 14, 1798, indicating the lot was undeveloped at that time. The property passed from Wise to Isaac and James Foster and, on November 29, 1809, from the Fosters to Isaac Meeks. While Britton was an entrepreneur and Wise most likely was an absentee owner, Meeks was a tanner who expanded the tanyard to encompass three lots straddling Buckland Mill Road. By the early 1820s, it was the most valuable property within the platted portion of the town.

On March 21, 1822, Isaac Meeks secured a debt of $115.20 owed to the firm of Brooks & Alexander by executing an indenture for a "Certain lot of land lying & being situate in the town of Buckland County of Prince William… on which said lot the said Isaac Meeks has now a Tan Yard know[n] by lot Number 8 measuring One hundred feet in front and one hundred and eighty feet in length." The tanyard extended to Lot 9 and to a large, un-numbered parcel on the east side of Mill Street, running down to Broad Run. A tanyard would leave a very distinctive archeological signature and, when excavated carefully, tanning vats have yielded exquisite artifacts and a high level of preservation for normally ephemeral evidence.

Lots 10 and 11: William Brooks House Site.

John and Elizabeth Love sold Lots 10 and 11 to William Brooks on June 13, 1799, for £60 Virginia currency, indicating the property was already improved. The 1820 tax assessment is particularly specific, and notes that Lot No. 10 is improved with buildings valued at $700; the annual rental value of the property is assessed

at $100, among the highest valuations in Buckland. Lot No. 11 is separately listed for that year (but also owned by Brooks), assessed as an unimproved lot worth $10 per year in rent. Lots 10 and 11 are treated as a single property with a similar valuation in 1860 and 1865, and are joined with Lots 1 and 8 by 1874.

Lot No. 11: Ice House Site.

A post Civil War survey plat of Buckland indicates a structure in the southeast corner of Lot No. 11, labeled "Ice house." The plat indicates that lots 10 and 11 were owned at this time by Thomas Moss.

Lot No. 13: Francis Hawley's Kitchen Site.

On November 1, 1800, John and Elizabeth Love conveyed Lot No. 13 to Francis Hawley for £40 Virginia currency. The property is described as "all that Tenement Lott…whereon the said Francis Hawley has his new Kitchen." By about 1820 free African American Ned Distiller had constructed the frame, two-room plan house that survives to the present.

Lot 14: John Robinson House Site.

A post Civil War survey plat of Buckland indicates a structure located on the southeast corner of Lot No. 14, owned at the time by "Corhan." Based on tax records, this is probably a building constructed by John Robinson around 1827.

Lot No. 16: Site of first Buckland Church.

The present church at Buckland is said to be the second on this site, built in 1856 to replace a building constructed in the 1830s or earlier.

Lots No. 28 and 29: Distillery Site.

On September 4, 1799, Samuel Love, Jr. sold part of Lot No. 28 to John Taylor, Jr., for £200 Virginia currency; in May 1800 Taylor purchased the rest of the lot from John and Elizabeth Love. The price paid in the first transaction indicates Samuel Love's portion was already improved. The 1801 tax assessment for Buckland assesses John Taylor for an improved lot worth $100 per year, among the highest valuations in town, and describes the property as "part of Lot 29…where your still is." Taylor sold Lot 28 to Josiah Watson in 1811, and by 1820 Lot 28 was omitted from the tax list; in 1824, 1825, and 1826 Watson was assessed for two unimproved lots. Meanwhile, on February 26, 1812, John Love sold to William Brooks for $50, "part of… Lot No. 29…where the old still House stood." This early distillery was evidently replaced with a more ambitious operation, as described by a traveler in 1835.

Lot No. 29: Francis Hawley Stables Site.

On February 2, 1799, John and Elizabeth Love sold part of Lot No. 29 to Francis Hawley for £12. The property is described as "all that tenement Lott…whereon the said Francis Hawley has his Stables…being part of Lott 29 in the plan of Buckland." A post Civil War survey plat of Buckland indicates three structures in the northeast corner of Lot 29, one of which is labeled "stable," and a small, square structure in the southwest corner. The latter building seems to conform to a log structure that appears in about this location in the 1863 panorama drawing by Alfred Waud.

Lot 30: Medical Office Site, Dr. Brown House.

Sometime after the Civil War, a one-story frame addition was made to the south gable of the Dr. Brown House. This structure had a lean-to roof concealed from the street by a false front, and served as a medical office for two successive doctors. It was demolished sometime after 1973.

Lot 31: McIntosh House Site.

Photographs taken by Grace Bear ca. 1950 illustrate a two-story frame house that was located on Lot 31 prior to its demolition for construction of the new, southbound lanes of Lee Highway in 1953. Tax assessments indicate the lot was improved by 1851. In that year, Dudley M. Pattie of Washington, D. C. was

listed as the owner of Lot 31, assessed at $300, including a building valued at $250. The only structure evident on this lot in the 1863 Alfred Waud panorama is a small log building with no chimney, clearly not worth $250. Nevertheless, the assessment continued at that valuation in 1860, 1861 and 1865, all charged to James W. McIntosh. By 1877 the total assessment for the property had increased to $425, indicating a modest level of improvement. It seems likely that Alfred Waud overlooked this building when he composed his drawing in 1863.

Lot No. 32: George Legg House Site.

The tax assessments for the years 1799 through 1806 charge George Legg for a house and lot, valued at from $20 to $40 per year. By 1820, the property belonged to Edward Robinson, owner of the Buckland Tavern, and was improved with buildings valued at $200.

Lot No. 34: Unidentified Building Site.

In July 1798 the Buckland Trustees sold Lot 34 to John Love for £30, a price that suggests the property was already improved by at least a modest building. In 1820, Lot 34 is still owned by John Love and includes buildings valued at $200. By 1851, Lot 34 has been combined with lots 35 and 36 with buildings valued at just $50.

Lot No. [35?]: Mary Brent House Site.

On September 27, 1825, John Love sold "the eastern portion of the Lott of Land heretofore belonging to George Roach" for $100. The boundary description does not include a lot number from the plat of the town, but it lies on the west side of Broad Run just north of the bridge. One boundary mark is "a locust tree at the N.W. corner of the house now occupied by Mary Brent a woman of Color…"

Lot 38: Samuel and Celia King House Site.

George Britton purchased this lot in 1799 from John Love for $50, a price that indicates it was already improved. Britton is charged for a house and lot on Lot 38 for 1799 through 1804; by 1809 ownership has passed to Samuel King, a free African American. King emancipated Celia, his wife of sixteen years, in 1811. King is assessed for Lot 38 from 1809 through 1822; assessments for the period 1823 through 1846 charge Samuel King's estate. From 1851 through 1877, the property is assessed to Celia King, but the 1877 assessment notes there is "no such lot to be found." The valuation for the building declines sharply in 1840, and the 1860 assessment indicates Celia's estate is charged. It seems likely that the house declined after Samuel King's death, and by 1877 was no longer standing. The precise location of their house has not been identified, but Lot 38 lies on the east side of Broad Run, north of Lee Highway.

Lot 47 or 48: George Britton's Log House.

In July 1798, George purchased lots 47 and 48 from the Trustees of the Town of Buckland, with the stipulation that he improve the property within seven years with a house measuring at least twelve feet square and with a brick or stone chimney. On August 20, 1811, George and Elizabeth Britton sold to John Love for £20 "Lots No. 47 and 48 being the same Conveyed to the said George Britton by the Trustees of the said Town and lying on the North side of Broad run and the most Northerly lots in the said Town on which a log house is now erected."

Buckland School Site.

The Buckland School was constructed on a one-acre lot on the southern edge of town. This lot was acquired by the Gainesville District School Trustees from Rose and James W. Hunton on September 28, 1876, and was sold by the County School Board of Prince William County on October 4, 1930.

Buckland Mill Dam and Race.

The dam that served the Buckland Mill and, later, an associated woolen mill was located approximately one-quarter mile upstream from the mill. Traces of the dam survive, and two photographs document its appearance.

According to local historian Martha Leitch, the dam was washed out by a flood sometime prior to 1973. Much of the mill race still can be traced along the western side of Broad Run.

Buckland Woolen Mill Ruins.

Traces of the woolen manufactory are still visible approximately 70 yards north of the Calvert Mill, nestled against the rising river terrace and with ready access to the head race for the surviving mill. This manufacturing mill was in operation by the late 1840s and evidently closed in the late nineteenth century.

Old House/Miss William's Stables.

A post Civil War survey plat of Buckland indicates a structure to the west of the Buckland Mill, parallel to and fronting on Love Street, approximately on axis with Madison Street. The building is labeled "old House now Miss William's Stables."

Buckland Quarry.

Located on the east bank of Broad Run opposite the Buckland Mill, this quarry provided building stone for many of the buildings in the town of Buckland.

Broad Run ford, bridges, and turnpike road bed at Buckland.

The first crossing at Broad Run is believed to be a ford that was located at Love Street, the east-west street that was aligned just south of the Buckland Mill. An early bridge was constructed just downstream, at Bridge Street. When the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike was extended from Buckland to Warrenton in the early 1820s, the Broad Run crossing was shifted to a more southerly location, just to the south of the modern Lee Highway. The stone abutments that survive on either bank of Broad Run are believed to date to ca. 1808 and have supported several successive bridges.

Recommendations for Future Work

For a small village, Buckland has revealed a remarkable array of significant historic resources. Individually, thirteen extant buildings and more than two dozen archaeological sites have been identified. Collectively they include the homes, businesses, and industrial enterprises of a diverse population that included farmers, merchants, artisans, and tradesmen. Documentary evidence demonstrates that Buckland's African American community included free blacks and skilled artisans. A great deal of research and field documentation has been completed in this phase of work, and the results have been organized to serve either as a stand-alone product or as the foundation for a broader evaluation of records and resources.

The quality of documentary, architectural, and archaeological resources in and around Buckland merits more intensive study, continuing the established commitment by the Buckland Preservation Society to inter-disciplinary research. Outlined below are a series of research initiatives that should yield substantive new insights into the history of Buckland, and to broader themes that can broaden our understanding of Virginia and beyond.

A. Documentary Research

Expand title history for each site with extant structure.

Prepare chain of title for town lots and sites with archaeological potential.

Acquire and analyze census records for Buckland, 1790-1920.

Expand analysis of tax assessments for Buckland, 1790-1920.

Acquire and analyze industrial census records for Buckland, 1850-1920.

Create biographical profiles for Buckland residents and property owners.

Research the formation of a separate African American church, ca. 1870.

Trace location of and review research collection of Martha Leitch.

Inventory and scan collected papers of Grace Bear and Tom Ashe.

Extend search for historic maps to include period 1820 to 1960.

Search for Methodist, Episcopal and AME church records for Buckland.

Prepare inventory of cemetery stones and inscriptions for Buckland.

B. Thematic and Contextual Research and Fieldwork

African American community in Buckland & Western Prince William County.

Grist mills in Prince William County and northern Virginia.

Woolen mills and the textile industry in 19th century Virginia.

Distilling in antebellum Virginia.

Taverns and inns in antebellum Virginia.

Commercial stores and post offices in antebellum Virginia.

Blacksmiths and forges in antebellum Virginia.

Tanning industry in antebellum Virginia.

Lee Highway in Buckland, 1808-present.

C. Architectural Survey and Research

Expand documentation for key sites within district.

House at 8203 Buckland Mill Road
House at 8205 Buckland Mill Road

Conduct survey of historic resources adjacent to existing district.

Buckland Hall
Cerro Gordo

Double slave quarter south of Buckland Hall.

Distillery on Route 29.

African American Church on Route 29.

Two blacksmith's shops in Buckland vicinity.

Prepare architectural overview of Buckland drawing from new research.

Prepare revised National Register documentation for Buckland Historic District, including reassessment of district boundaries.

Prepare National Register nomination for Buckland Hall.

Develop Buckland dendrochronology area pattern. Test selected buildings with tightly documented dates.

Test selected buildings with tightly documented dates.

D. Archeological Research and Fieldwork

Prepare accurate land survey of original town plan.

Develop research design for comprehensive archeological survey.

Test key sites for archeological potential.

Buckland Woolen Mill Ruins
Buckland Distillery
Richard Gill Blacksmith Shop
Samuel & Celia King House Site
Isaac Meeks Tanyard Site
Stagecoach Inn Site
Fauquier & Alexandria Turnpike

E. Education and Outreach Activities.

Develop web site that provides public access to full array of Buckland research.

Produce CD version of the architectural survey report for public distribution.

Publish scholarly material on history and architecture of Buckland.

Work with Prince William County Schools on Biographical Profiles.

Collaborate with African American Museum in The Plains.

F. The Civil War in Buckland and Northern Virginia

A parallel research project is currently underway, focused specifically on the role of Buckland in the Civil War.

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