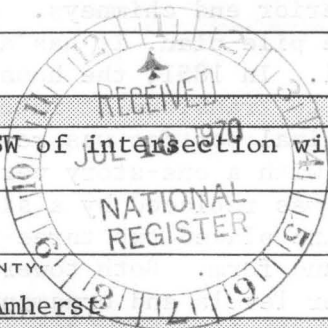


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Amherst	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-9-45-0056	DATE 9/15



1. NAME

COMMON:
Sweet Briar House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Sweet Briar; Locust Ridge

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: .8 mi. NW of Rt. 29, .1 mi. SW of intersection with Rt. 624.

CITY OR TOWN:
Sweet Briar

STATE Virginia	CODE 45	COUNTY Amherst	CODE 009
-------------------	------------	-------------------	-------------

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Sweet Briar College

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Sweet Briar

STATE: Virginia	CODE 45
--------------------	------------

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Amherst County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Amherst

STATE Virginia	CODE 45
-------------------	------------

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1957 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: D. C.	CODE 08
-----------------	------------

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: Amherst
ENTRY NUMBER: 70-9-45-0056
DATE: 9/15
FOR NPS USE ONLY

6. SIGNIFICANCE

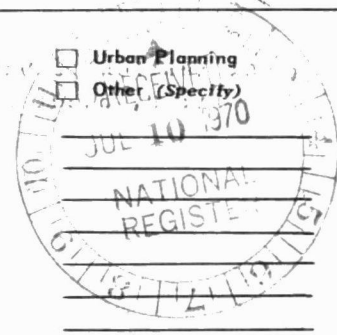
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Sweet Briar House was probably built in the first quarter of the nineteenth century by the Crews (or Crouse) family as a six-room, T-shaped farmhouse. The land on which the house was built was part of a grant by the Crown to George Carrington in 1770. At a public auction in 1830, the property, known as Locust Ridge, was bought by Elijah Fletcher, a New England school teacher who had come to Virginia in 1810.

Elijah Fletcher was the owner and publisher of The Virginian, a Whig newspaper in Lynchburg; he also served as the mayor of that city. Mrs. Fletcher, the former Maria Antoinette Crawford of nearby Tusculum, changed the name of the property to Sweet Briar, for the abundance of wild roses that grew there. At first a weekend retreat, the Fletchers made Sweet Briar their permanent home in 1846. In the spring of 1851, Fletcher began the enlargement of the house by the addition of the tower wings and the connecting arcaded portico in the Italian Villa style. The project was completed in about eighteen months.

After Fletcher's death in 1858, his daughter Indiana inherited the house. In 1865 she married James Henry Williams, an Episcopal clergyman, and two years later their only child, Daisy, was born. Daisy died when only seventeen years old, and it was in her memory that her sorrowing parents made plans to found a school for girls and young women. The college was established in accordance with provisions of Mrs. Williams' will; its charter was granted by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1901; and the first students matriculated in 1906. The house now serves as the residence for the president of Sweet Briar College, one of the nation's most prestigious women's colleges.

As a result of the 1851 remodelling, Sweet Briar House stands today as a major example of the Italian Villa style in Virginia. In a sense Sweet Briar achieved its picturesque effect in much the same manner as its prototype, the vernacular Italian farmhouse - through alterations and additions. Unfortunately the architect of the remodelling is unknown, although an unsigned contemporary rendering of the facade showing its additions survives in the College Library. Not only is the quality of the picturesque evident in the architecture of the house, but the informal gardens originally laid out by Elijah Fletcher display a romantic inspiration as well. The many large boxwoods have long been a favorite attraction.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

O'Neal, William B., Architecture in Virginia. New York: 1968.
 Stohlman, Martha Lou, The Story of Sweet Briar College. Alumnae Association of Sweet Briar College, 1956.
Sweet Briar Institute. 1904 (pamphlet).
 Information provided by Martha von Briesen, Director, Public Relations Office, Sweet Briar College, Sweet Briar, Virginia.

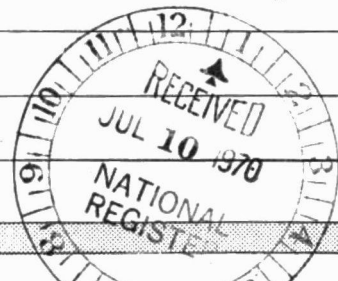
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY:			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37 ° 33 ' 26 "	79 ° 04 ' 59 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **3 acres**

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

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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION:
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
 Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN:
 Richmond

STATE:
 Virginia

DATE:
 April 21, 1970

CODE:
 45

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Edw. P. Alexander by JWA
 Title: Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date: 7-7-70

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

Ernest Allen Connolly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

SEP 15 1970

Date _____

ATTEST:
William J. Smalley
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: JUL 27 1970

RECEIPT

PROPERTY

Sweet Briar House Amherst

Va
SIGN-OFF

REGISTER NUMBER

70.9.45.0056

DATE OF RECEIPT

7/10/70

YES

NO

NUMBER

70000783 9/15

DATA PAGE

✓

1

PHOTO (S)

✓

PHOTO DESCRIPTION (S)

✓

1

MAP (S)

✓

MAP DESCRIPTION (S)

✓

LOGGED

✓

ACKNOWLEDGE

7/17/70

9/23/70

REVIEW

OK

7/17/70

HISTORIAN

In BTC - OK

Gamble

7/20/70

HISTORIAN

OK

Long

7/24/70

ARCHITECT

OK

Charles

7/22/70

ASST. KEEPER

W. M.

7/27/70

KEEPER

OK

ENTRY

CHIEF, CAMP

ok

9-15-70

EDITORIAL RECEIVING

EDITOR *HABS*

ok
ED 7/22/70

JUL 10 1970



DATE

10/6/70

Register Entry

Admission Entry

LOGGED

9/16/70

CARD

9/16/70

WORKING NUMBER

7-10-70-1

COMMENTS:



95%

Sweet Briar House
Amherst County, Virginia

N.S. Number 70.9.45.0056

Title: SWEET BRIAR HOUSE

Loc. AMHERST CO, VIRGINIA

VIEW FROM the south

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

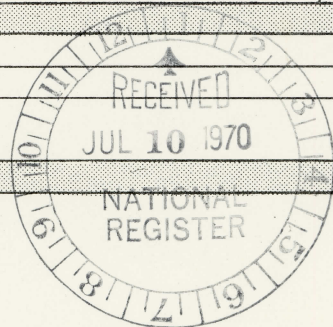
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

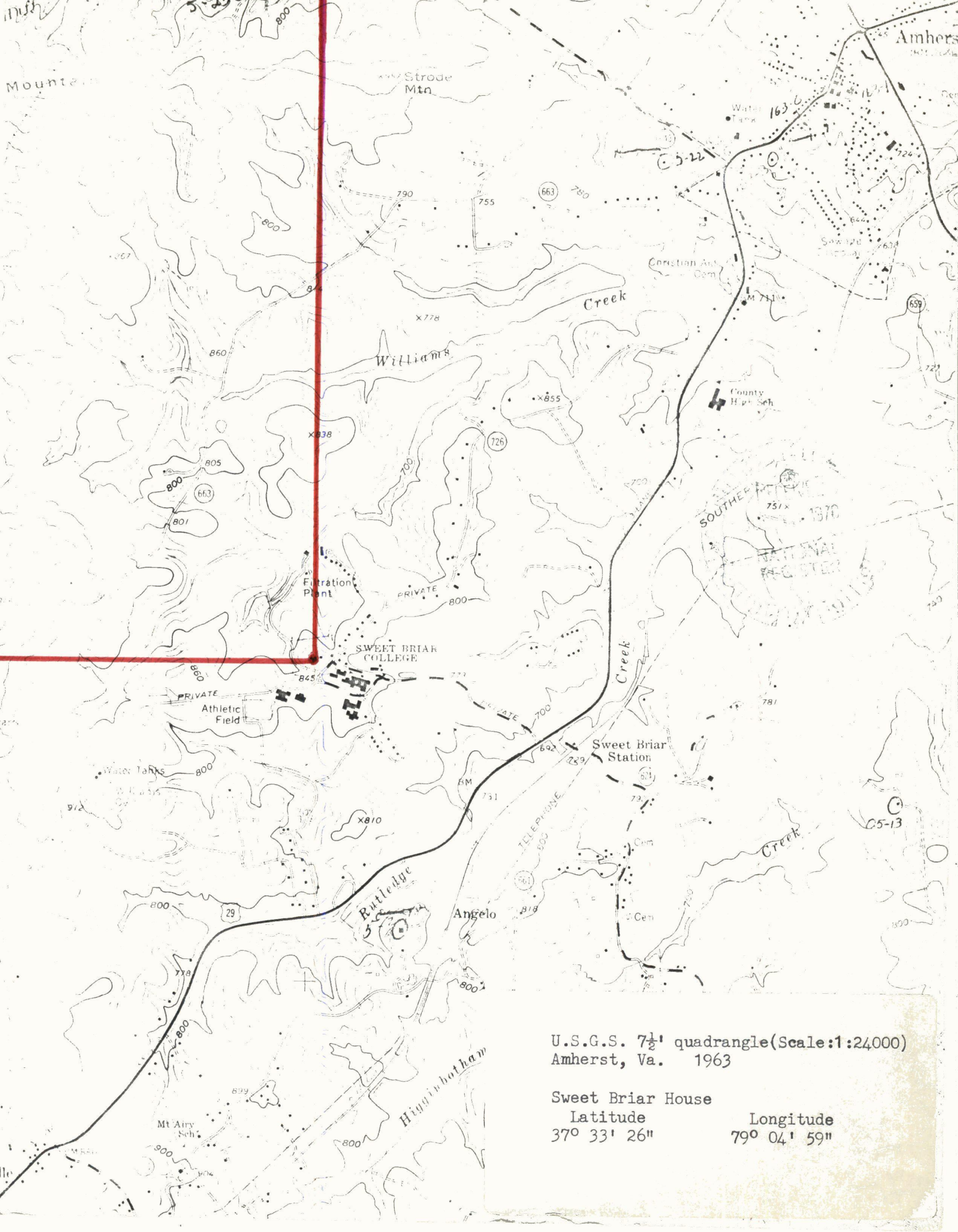
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Amherst	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-9-45-0056	DATE 9/15

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Sweet Briar House			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Sweet Briar; Locust Ridge			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: .8 mi. NW of Rt. 29, .1 mi. SW of intersection with Rt. 624.			
CITY OR TOWN: Sweet Briar			
STATE: Virginia	CODE 45	COUNTY: Amherst	CODE 009
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts			
DATE OF PHOTO: 1968			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Richmond, Virginia			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. View from the South.			





U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (Scale:1:24000)
Amherst, Va. 1963

Sweet Briar House

Latitude
37° 33' 26"

Longitude
79° 04' 59"

Sweet Briar House
Amherst Co., Va

18

S. Marus
9/11

H30-HR

SEP 15 1970

Dr. Edward P. Alexander
Chairman
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
Room 1106
State Ninth Street Office Building
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Dr. Alexander:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Senators Harry F. Byrd, Jr. and William B. Spong, Jr., and the appropriate Representatives have also been notified. Please withhold any publicity on this until you have received a carbon copy of the Congressional correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ Ernest Allen Connally

Ernest Allen Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology
and Historic Preservation

Enclosure

Entered in the National Register _____

SEP 15 1970

cc:
HR
SMarusin:mmm

9/11/70

BASIC FILE REMAINED IN HR

18

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

VIRGINIA

St. George's Church	Pungoteague, Virginia
Abingdon Glebe House	Gloucester County, Virginia
Abingdon Church	Gloucester County, Virginia
Vauclause	Northampton County, Virginia
Powhatan	James City County, Virginia
Grace Church	Yorktown, Virginia
New Market Battlefield Park	Shenandoan County, Virginia
Farmington	Albemarle County, Virginia
Octonia Stone	Greene County, Virginia
Goochland County Court Square	Goochland, Virginia
Corotoman	Lancaster County, Virginia
Rock Castle	Rock Castle, Virginia
Aldie Historic District	Aldie, Virginia
Sweet Briar House	Sweet Briar, Virginia
Three Otters	Bedford County, Virginia
St. John's Church Historic District	Richmond, Virginia
Old Isle of Wight Court House	Smithfield, Virginia
Fortsville	Sussex County, Virginia
Ellwood	Essex County, Virginia

Sept 18

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

100-10

Hon. Harry F. Byrd, Jr.
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

SEP 22 1970

Dear Senator Byrd:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Virginia and have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senator William B. Spong, Jr., and the appropriate Representatives have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, Room 1106, State Ninth Street Office Building, Richmond, Virginia 23219, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

Enclosures

SEP 15 1970

Entered in the National Register

cc:
Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, Room 1106, State Ninth Street Office Building, Richmond, Virginia 23219

Duplicate letter sent to: Hon. William B. Spong, Jr.
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

cc: Director, Southeast Region
LL-Mr. Melvin

9/9/70

Smarusin:mm

T HR

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

VIRGINIA

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ✓ St. George's Church | Pungoteague, Virginia |
| ✓ Abingdon Globe House | Gloucester County, Virginia |
| ✓ Abingdon Church | Gloucester County, Virginia |
| ✓ Vaultuse | Northampton County, Virginia |
| ✓ Powhatan | James City County, Virginia |
| ✓ Grace Church | Yorktown, Virginia |
| ✓ New Market Battlefield Park | Shenandoah County, Virginia |
| ✓ Farmington | Albemarle County, Virginia |
| ✓ Octavia Stone | Greene County, Virginia |
| ✓ Gloucester County Court Square | Goodland, Virginia |
| ✓ Corstoun | Lancaster County, Virginia |
| ✓ Rock Castle | Rock Castle, Virginia |
| ✓ Aldie Historic District | Aldie, Virginia |
| ✓ <u>Sweet Briar House</u> | Sweet Briar, Virginia |
| ✓ Three Otters | Bedford County, Virginia |
| ✓ St. John's Church Historic District | Richmond, Virginia |
| ✓ Old Isle of Wight Court House | Smithfield, Virginia |
| ✓ Portoville | Sussex County, Virginia |
| ✓ Elmwood | Essex County, Virginia |

Capped 2

HCO-RR

SEP 22 1970

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

Hon. Richard H. Poff
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Poff:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Virginia and have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senators Harry F. Byrd, Jr., and William B. Spong, Jr., have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, Room 1106, State Ninth Street Office Building, Richmond, Virginia 23219, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,
(SGD) GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

Enclosures

SEP 15 1970

Entered in the National Register _____

cc:
Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, Room 1106, State Ninth Street Office Building

Director, Southeast Region

9/9/70

cc: LL-Mr. Melvin
T
HR
SMarusin:man

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

VIRGINIA

Sweet Briar House
Three Others

Sweet Briar, Virginia
Bedford County, Virginia