

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received OCT 25 1979

date entered DEC 28 1979

1. Name

historic Snow Hill (preferred)

and/or common Booth House

2. Location *S of jct of VA 612 and VA 40 on W side of VA 40*

W side of State Route 40; S of intersection of State
street & number Routes 612 and 40; E of Otterdam Swamp. ☐ not for publication

city, town Gwaltney Corner ☒ vicinity of Fourth (Robert W. Daniel, Jr.)
congressional district

state Virginia code 51 county Surry code 181

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
☐ district	☐ public	☐ occupied	☐ agriculture ☐ museum
☒ building(s)	☒ private	☒ unoccupied	☐ commercial ☐ park
☐ structure	☐ both	☐ work in progress	☐ educational ☒ private residence
☐ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	☐ entertainment ☐ religious
☐ object	☐ in process	☒ yes: restricted	☐ government ☐ scientific
	☐ being considered	☐ yes: unrestricted	☐ industrial ☐ transportation
		☐ no	☐ military ☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Timmie Hobbs Wilcox/Mrs. Rosalie Wilcox Priddy ✓

street & number Route 3, Box 612

city, town Ashland ☐ vicinity of state Virginia 23005

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Surry County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Surry state Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission has this property been determined eligible? ☒ yes ☐ no

date 1973, 1976, 1979 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission - 221 Governor Street

city, town Richmond state Virginia 23219

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered	☒ original site
☒ good	☐ ruins	☒ altered	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Snow Hill is a 2½-story, single-pile frame house located in a completely rural setting on State Route 40 in Surry County. Erected in 1836, the gable-roof structure is set on a brick underpinning laid in three-course American bond with rodded joints.

The front (south) elevation contains the house's main entrance. The entry consists of a double doorway with paneled doors contained within a simply executed three-part architrave. A one-story, gable-roof porch originally sheltered the entrance. Fenestration consists of most of the original 9/9 hung sash, framed within a simple three-part architrave on a torus sill. Replacement louvred shutters flank both the first- and second-story windows. A modillion cornice embellishes the facade while the rear cornice is a simple molded one. The roof is covered with a standing-seam sheet metal which probably replaced wood shingles. All elevations are covered with beaded weatherboarding original to the house. The north elevation is similar to the main facade. Both the east and west elevations have brick exterior end chimneys laid in five-course American bond. The haunches are tiled, an unusual refinement for the period when most haunches were stepped. Replacement 4/4 hung-sash windows are found on the attic story. A side entrance is located on the west elevation.

Snow Hill's plan consists of a central passage flanked by single, large rooms on all three stories. The hall is dominated by an open-well stair that ascends to the attic, is open-string, and has a square newel, rounded hand rail, and three rectangular balusters to a tread. The stair retains its original marbleized risers. Evidence exists of mahogany graining on the newel and handrail. The hall also contains a recessed-panel, green-painted wainscot with a pedestal chair rail. A simply executed plaster medallion decorates the ceiling.

The east parlor also has recessed-paneled wainscoting and a pedestal chair rail. The wainscoting retains its original paint consisting of grained, painted imitation-maple panels, mahogany-grained stiles, and a gray marbleized baseboard. The doors retain their original graining. The mantel is a later 19th-century replacement. The west parlor or dining room is similarly executed, although the room has been repainted. The second floor features a molded chair rail. The door panels are grained in imitation tiger maple, while the third-floor door panels imitate birds-eye maple. The rails and stiles of the doors are mahogany grained. Federal-style mantels from both the second and first floors were removed for safe-keeping and will be replaced in a forthcoming restoration.

While no outbuildings survive, sites of the kitchen and so-called loom house are discernible to the rear of the main house.

RCC

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400-1499	☐ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500-1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600-1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☐ 1700-1799	☒ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☒ 1800-1899	☐ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900-	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates 1836 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Painting and graining, the special decorative treatment of interior woodwork in imitation of fine woods and marbles, was a craft widely practiced in antebellum Virginia. The character of this painting and graining varied from the wild and colorfully impressionistic to precise imitations of precious materials. There are few well-preserved examples of this embellishment, although it was formerly found in dwellings of widely divergent size and caliber throughout the Commonwealth. Extant examples are concentrated in the region south of the James River. Typical of the more restrained and more carefully delineated form of graining and marbleizing that characterized the moderate-size plantation houses of Southside Virginia is that in Snow Hill, Surry County.

The two-story frame house at Snow Hill was built by Samuel Booth in 1836 on the 111-acre tract he had purchased from David Cocke in 1817. Booth served as a captain in the Surry County Militia and later as a lieutenant colonel of the 71st Regiment of the Virginia Militia. The house Booth erected is notable not only for its decorated interior woodwork but as a good example of an "I" house, a house type consisting of two stories and a single-pile, center-passage plan. The type is a blending of vernacular and Georgian forms and was the most popular pattern for Virginia farmhouses from the late 18th to the late 19th centuries. The Booth house is exceptionally well proportioned and has fine detailing in its tall, exterior end chimneys and exterior trim.

The first notation for improvements on the property is found in the Surry County land book for 1837 when \$1,380 is listed for improvements on what had grown to a 172.5-acre tract. An additional \$618 in improvements was noted the following year. In 1859 Booth sold the property to William H. Hood of Southampton County and moved to Sussex County where he died in 1876. Hood retained possession of the property until 1875, when Binns Beverly Booth, son of the builder, purchased back all the land sold by his father.

In 1904 Booth sold the dwelling house and 200 acres to his son Samuel Peter Booth. In 1916 S. P. Booth added a kitchen wing to the back of the dwelling which was removed during a restoration in the 1970s. At Booth's death in 1933, the property was willed to John Leo Wilcox, the only son of Samuel Peter Booth's sister, Edmonia Booth Wilcox. The present owners inherited the property in 1954. The outbuildings were removed in the early part of the present century.

MTP/RCC

9. Major Bibliographical References

Priddy, Sumpter, III. "Snow Hill, Home of Colonel Samuel Booth." Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Archives.
Surry County Land Tax Books 1851-1863.
Orders 1862-1877, p. 205.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 10 acres

Quadrangle name Waverly, Va.

DATA NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	8
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3	1	7	8	0	0
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4	1	0	6	6	1	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

1	8
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3	1	7	9	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	1	0	6	5	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

1	8
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3	1	7	8	7	0
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4	1	0	6	3	3	0
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D

1	8
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3	1	7	6	9	0
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4	1	0	6	4	3	0
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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification Beginning at a point 2000' SSW of intersection of State routes 40 and 612, 1300' E of Otterdam Swamp and 1.4 miles N of Blackwater River; thence extending 650' ESE to W side of said route 40; thence extending 700' SSW along said side of said route; thence extending 650' WNW; thence extending 650' NNE to point of origin.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries (See Continuation Sheet #1)

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

organization Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission date September 1979

street & number 221 Governor Street telephone (804) 786-3144

city or town Richmond state Virginia 23219

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

 national X state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Tucker Hill
Tucker Hill, Executive Director

title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

date SEP 18 1979

For HCRS use only

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

W. Ray Luce
Keeper of the National Register

date 12-28-79

Attest: *William H. Brabham*
Chief of Registration

date 12-28-79

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 25 1979

DATE ENTERED

DEC 28 1979

Snow Hill, Surry County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 1

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property of ten acres includes the house and the sites of three known outbuildings. It is a fraction of the total acreage owned by Samuel Booth when he built the house in 1836.

Property

Snow Hill (preferred)

State

Va, Surry

Working Number

10.25.79, 2569

79003091

TECHNICAL

Photos

2

Maps

1

CONTROL

HISTORIAN

*1830s farmhouse. typical of the
period with center hall plan
- Interior painting is intact.*

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

*accept
Bravham
12.28.79*

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

*accept
Bravham
12.28.79*

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

*Accept
Wice
12-28-79*

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry

2-3-81

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Entered

DEC 28 1979



VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION
221 GOVERNOR STREET
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219

SNOW HILL

Surry County, VA

Credit: VA Historic Landmarks Commission
1976

Negative Filed: VA State Library

Exterior view of South elevation

3627

1 of 2

DEC 28 1979

OCT 25 1979



VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION
221 GOVERNOR STREET
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219

SNOW HILL

Surry County, VA

Credit: VA Historic Landmarks Commission

1979

Negative Filed: VA State Library

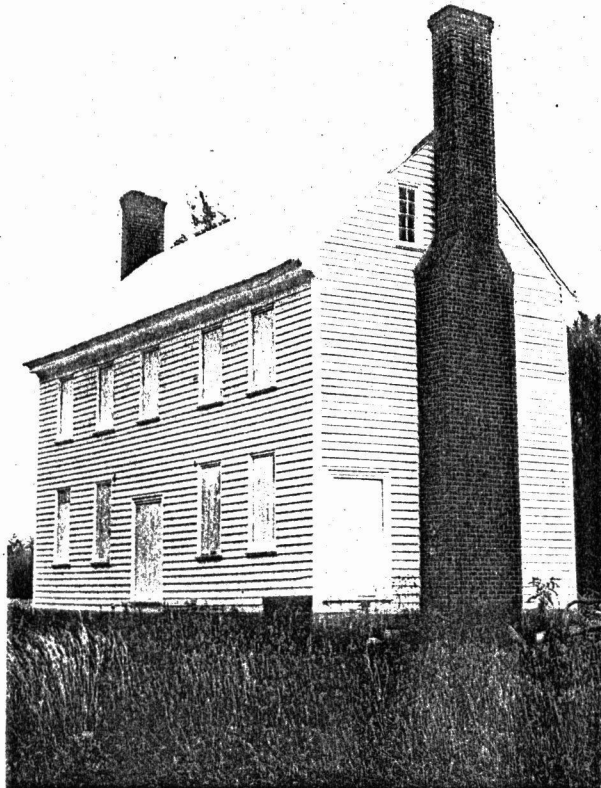
Interior view of grained door, 3rd floor

4833

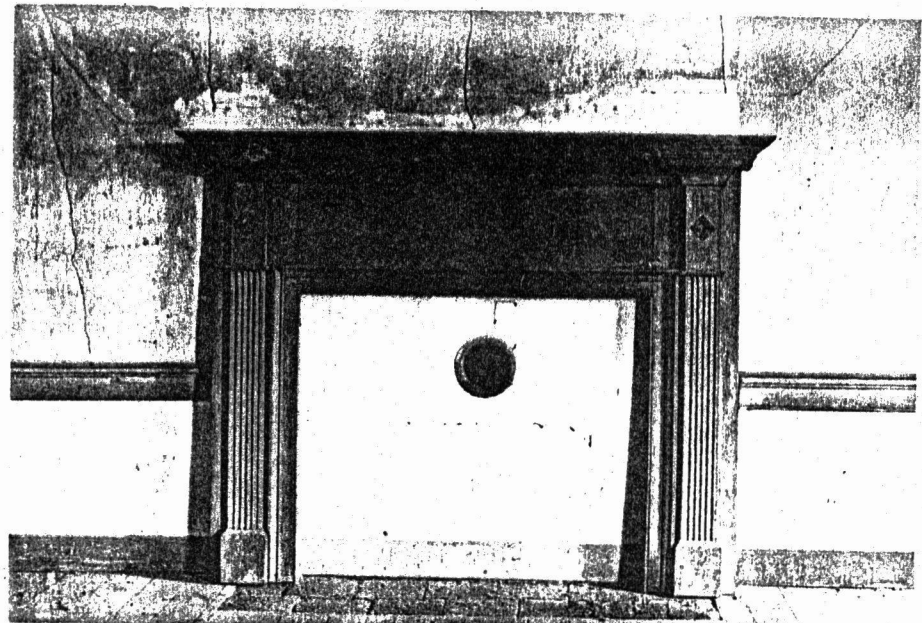
2 of 2

OCT 25 1979

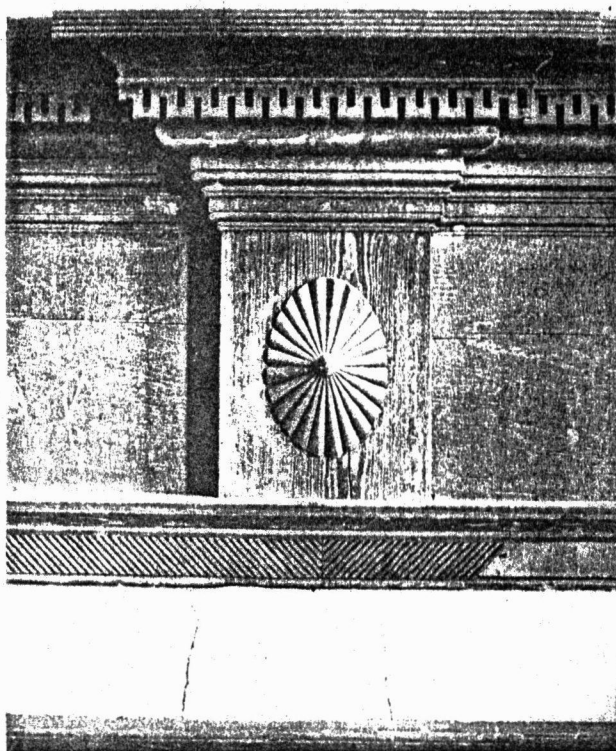
DEC 28 1979



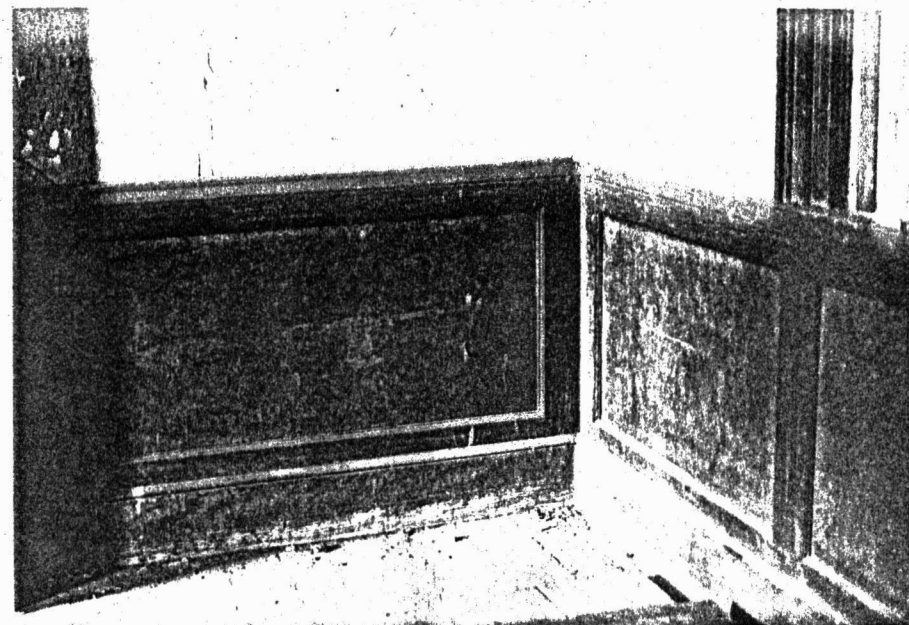
View of northwest



2nd-floor mantel

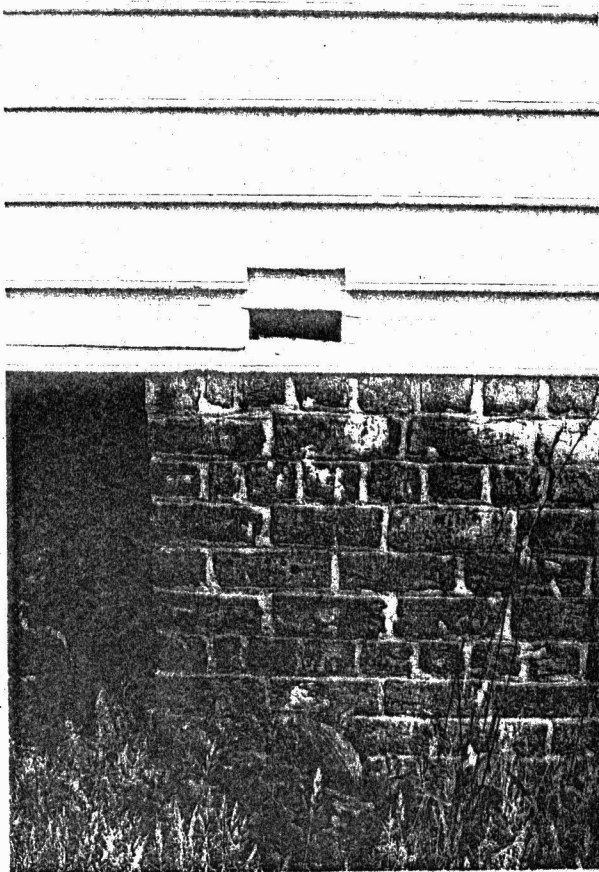


1st-floor parlor mantel detail



1st-floor parlor - detail of graining

58



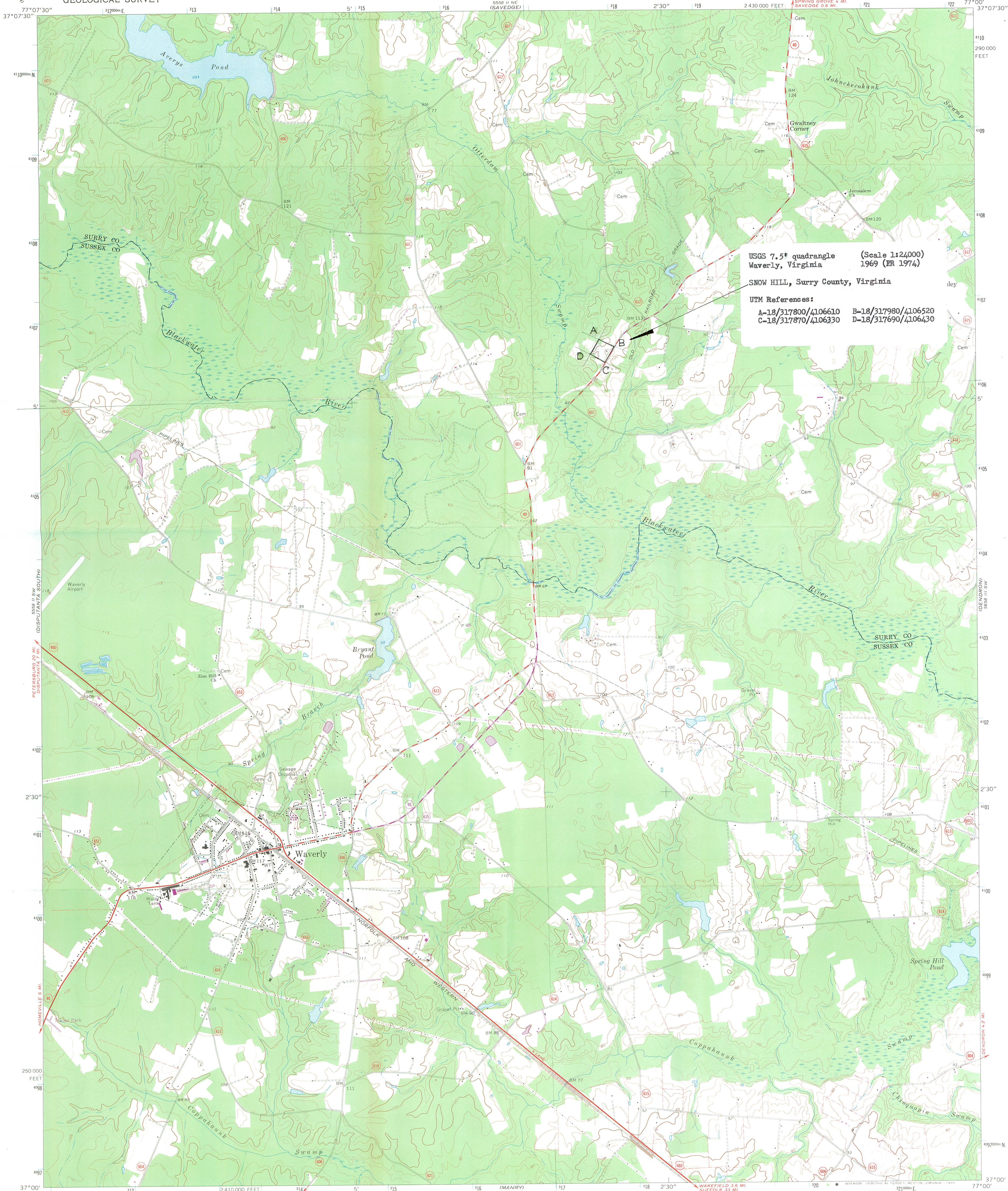
Brick foundation



Detail of dentil cornice & weatherboarding

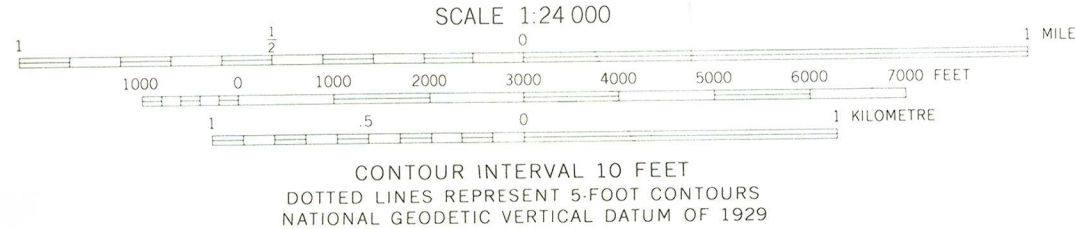
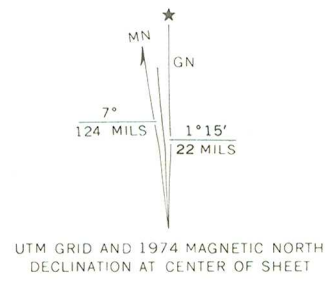
DEC 28 1979





USGS 7.5' quadrangle (Scale 1:24000)
Waverly, Virginia 1969 (PR 1974)
SNOW HILL, Surry County, Virginia
UTM References:
A-18/317800/4106610 B-18/317980/4106520
C-18/317870/4106330 D-18/317690/4106430

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1966. Field checked 1969
Supersedes Army Map Service map dated 1956
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Virginia coordinate system, south zone
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18,
shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND VIRGINIA DIVISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation
with Commonwealth of Virginia agencies from aerial
photographs taken 1974. This information not
field checked

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface
Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
U. S. Route
State Route

WAVERLY, VA.
N 3700 - W 7700 / 7.5

1969
PHOTOREVISED 1974
AMS 5558 II SE - SERIES V834

DEC 28 1979

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE VIRGINIA

DEC 28 1979

Date Entered

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Cedar Grove	Providence Forge vicinity New Kent County
St. Stephen's Church	Heathsville Northumberland County
Springfield	Heathsville Northumberland County
Kittiewan	New Hope vicinity Charles City County
Centenary Church	Richmond (ind. city)
Prospect Hill	Fincastle vicinity Botetourt County
Carlheim	Leesburg Loudoun County
Snow Hill	Gwaltney Corner vicinity Surry County
Oak Hill	Oak Ridge vicinity Pittsylvania County

Also Notified