

**A PRESERVATION PLAN FOR THE
MATTHEW JONES HOUSE
FORT EUSTIS, VIRGINIA**

Technical Report Series No. 3

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ABSTRACT

Archaeological, historical, and architectural evaluations of the Matthew Jones House were conducted by staff of the William and Mary Center for Archaeological Research (WMCAR) from July to September 1990. During September 1990, these evaluations were analyzed and synthesized to provide a complete background study for use in developing a historic preservation plan for the Matthew Jones House. The purpose of this study is to develop a preservation plan for managing and maintaining the structure.

The Matthew Jones House (44NN4), located on the northwest bank of Mulberry Island, is a 30-ft.-9-in.- \times -21-ft.-4-in., one- and one-half-story brick structure with two exterior gable-end chimneys. In 1893, the structure was given a full second floor and the chimney stacks were lengthened to accommodate the modification. There is significant evidence indicating that the building originally was of frame construction (Period I, ca. 1725) and in 1730 was heavily rebuilt in brick (Period II). All that survives from the Period I house are four framing members and the two chimneys. In 1893 (Period III), the structure was given a full second floor and the chimney stacks were lengthened to accommodate the modification.

The house in its original form exhibits several architectural characteristics that have been virtually lost in Virginia, making it a site of **extreme national significance**. First, the earthfast technology employed at the Matthew Jones house (that is, a building without foundations whose structural posts extend into the ground for support) was once the most common building type in Virginia. Except for a barn recently discovered in Suffolk and now disassembled, the Matthew Jones House remains the last fully earthfast structure known in Virginia.

The building began as a hall/chamber house with a pre-Georgian functional arrangement. With its large fireplace, cooking and service activities took place in the hall, alongside other work functions and entertainments that may have taken place. The alterations of the 1730s transformed it into the ideal gentry house of that period, being complete with parlor, dining room, chamber, controlled access (in the form of a porch tower) and detached service dependencies. The result is an evolved complex building with many rare features that add considerably to our knowledge of the architectural expectations of America's gentry class during the first half of the eighteenth century.

The Matthew Jones House exemplifies two manor periods in the development of vernacular houses in the Chesapeake, illustrating the transformation—from a pre-Georgian form to a late colonial one with increasing room specialization and privacy—that society was undergoing during the early eighteenth century.

The present study identified six preservation plan options for the Matthew Jones House, including no action, stabilization and mothballing, rehabilitation/reuse, restoration, disassembling and moving, and demolition. The option to take no action with regards to preservation of the Matthew Jones House would result in demolition by neglect. **Therefore both the options for no action and demolition would be considered to be in non-compliance of the law.** At a minimum, the house must be stabilized and a search begun for an appropriate use. Due to the significance of the Matthew Jones House to our nation's history and heritage, its rehabilitation by the Army at Fort Eustis would be regarded as a very positive step by both the professional and general public. Based on the findings of this study, the most appropriate use for the building is as an architectural study exhibit. This would allow for stabilization and permit some of the more interesting aspects of the structure to remain exposed for observation by both the general public and the academic community interested in the architecture and material culture of our past.

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CHAPTER 1: Project Background

Introduction

Archaeological, historical, and architectural evaluations of the Matthew Jones House, located on Fort Eustis, Newport News, Virginia, were conducted by staff of the William and Mary Archaeological Project Center (WMAPC) from July to September 1990 (Figure 1). During September 1990 these evaluations were analyzed and synthesized to provide a complete background study for use in developing a historic preservation plan for the Matthew Jones House.



Figure 1. Project area location.

The Matthew Jones House (Site 44NN4) is a 30-ft.-9-in.-x-21-ft.-4-in., one- and one-half-story brick structure with two exterior gable-end chimneys (Figure 2). There is significant evidence indicating that the building originally was of frame, and probably earthfast, construction (Period I, ca. 1725) and, in 1730, was heavily rebuilt in brick (Period II). All that survives from the Period I house are four framing members and the two chimneys. In 1893 (Period III), the structure was given a full second floor and the chimney stacks were lengthened to accommodate the modification.

The purpose of this study is to provide a preservation plan that will be advantageous for future management and maintenance of the structure. The research plan begins with an overview of available background research data and documentation. This information is then enriched in terms of new studies of historical context, archaeology, architectural history, and structural engineering in order to develop as complete an understanding of the house as possible.

This revised historical and architectural background is finally used as the basis for constructing a comprehensive preservation plan that develops and analyzes management options. The options are considered within the context of federal policies, laws, and regulations; the Army mission of Fort Eustis; state and local public opinion; state regulatory opinion; the historical and architectural context of the structure; the projected cost of each option; and time and maintenance considerations. Upon completion of the draft report, a public hearing will be held to elicit and document public opinion and comment.

This project was carried out under the general direction of Donald W. Linebaugh. Project Archaeologists Leslie McFaden and Thomas F. Higgins III were responsible for implementing the archaeological fieldwork and preparing the chapter on archaeological excavations. WMAPC staff members Cara Harbecke and Bradley Brown assisted Ms. McFaden and Mr. Higgins in the field. Mr. Linebaugh oversaw the technical and administrative aspects of the project and, with the assistance of Mary Evelyn Starr, Willie Graham, and Kimberley Becker, prepared the final drawings for this report. Laboratory processing and artifact analysis were conducted by Deborah L. Davenport with the assistance of Laurie Paonessa. The architectural investigation was conducted by consultant Willie Graham. The structural engineering fieldwork and report were prepared by consultant William J. Davis. Historical research was conducted by consultant Vanessa Patrick.

Field notes, artifacts, drawings, and other project documentation are stored at the WMCAR facility in Williamsburg, Virginia, referenced under WMCAR project number 90-33.

Description of Project Area

The project area is located on Fort Eustis, a U.S. Army installation situated approximately 15 mi. southeast of Williamsburg, Virginia. The project area, bounded on the north, east, and west by Washington



Figure 2. Matthew Jones House, exterior, looking north.

Street and on the south by a sewage treatment facility, is located on the northern end of Mulberry Island approximately 4,000 ft. south of the confluence of Skiffes Creek and the James River and approximately 700 ft. due east of the James (Figure 3). The house sits on a knoll overlooking a marshy, tidal flat area at an elevation of approximately 25 ft. above mean sea level. Milstead Creek enters the James a few hundred feet south of the project area. The project area is covered with tall grass and the landscaping exhibits modifications probably associated with construction of the sewage treatment plant and other twentieth-century activities.

Previous Research

The Matthew Jones house site and family have been of interest to historians and government planners since the 1940s. Several studies have been undertaken in an attempt to better understand this house, learn more about those who occupied it, and assess its importance for purposes of preservation. No one, however, has made a comprehensive study of the site and much that has been written is erroneous.

The following is a review of the existing documentation on the site. Previous historical research

is addressed in Chapter 2. The contract scope of work for this project specifically requires an analysis of the 1940s Historic American Building Survey (HABS) work to determine if it complies with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for documenting historic structures.

Historic American Buildings Survey

In 1940, a measuring project was undertaken to record the Matthew Jones House under the auspices of HABS. Now a division of the National Park Service, the program was part of the Public Works Administration when these drawings were produced. As part of this project, the cellar, first- and second-floor plans, and all four elevations were recorded (Figures 4–10). One brief data page was completed and 10 exterior photographs were taken. The photographs date from ca. 1934, 1935, and 1940. In 1959, a HABS Inventory form was completed on the building.

While the 1940s documentation provides much of what is required, it falls short of the "Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Architectural and Engineering Documentation" (revised 1990). The Secretary of the Interior defines the standards by which such recording

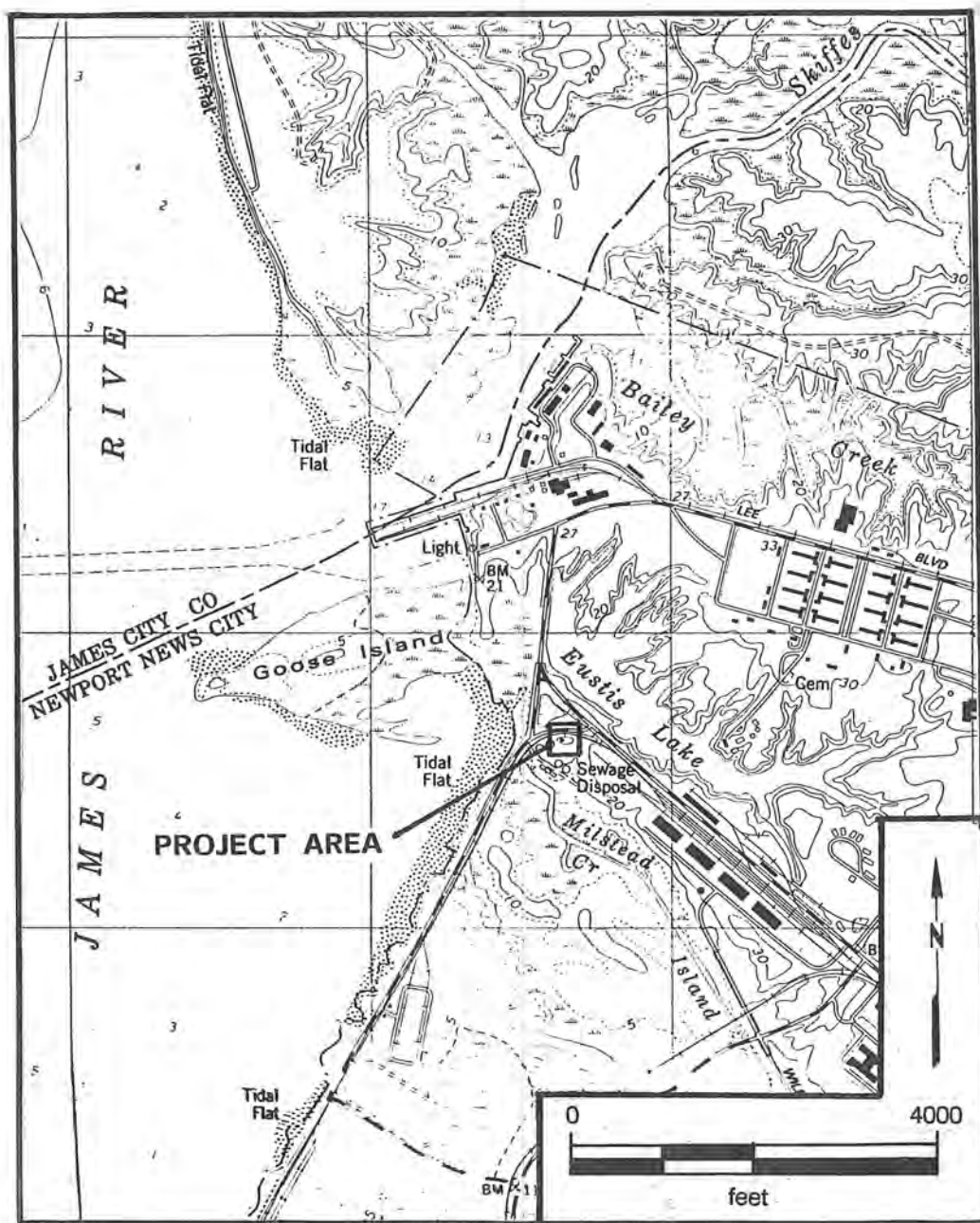


Figure 3. Project area and environs (U.S. Geological Survey [USGS] 1984).

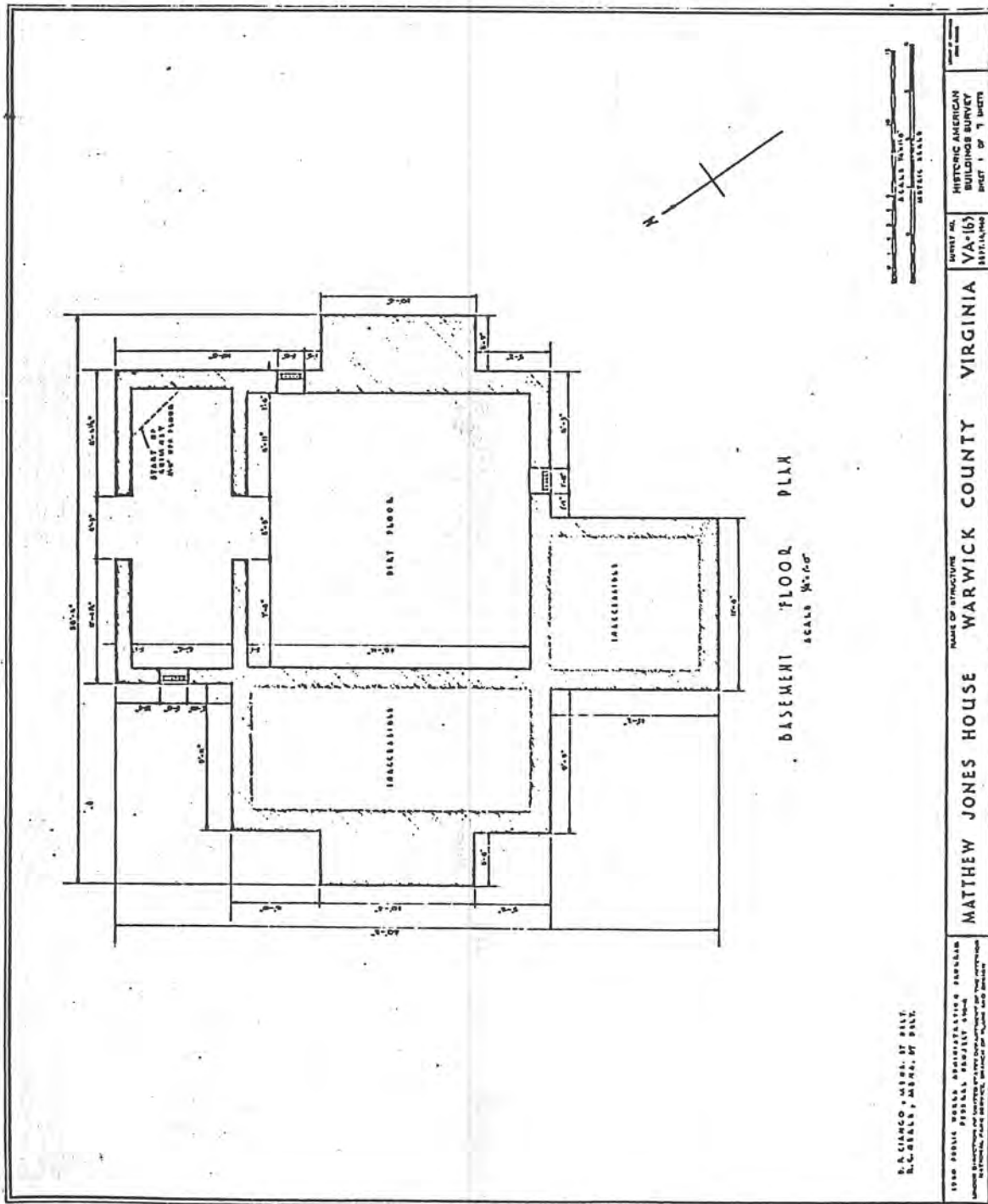


Figure 4. Matthew Jones House, HABS drawing (1940), cellar plan.

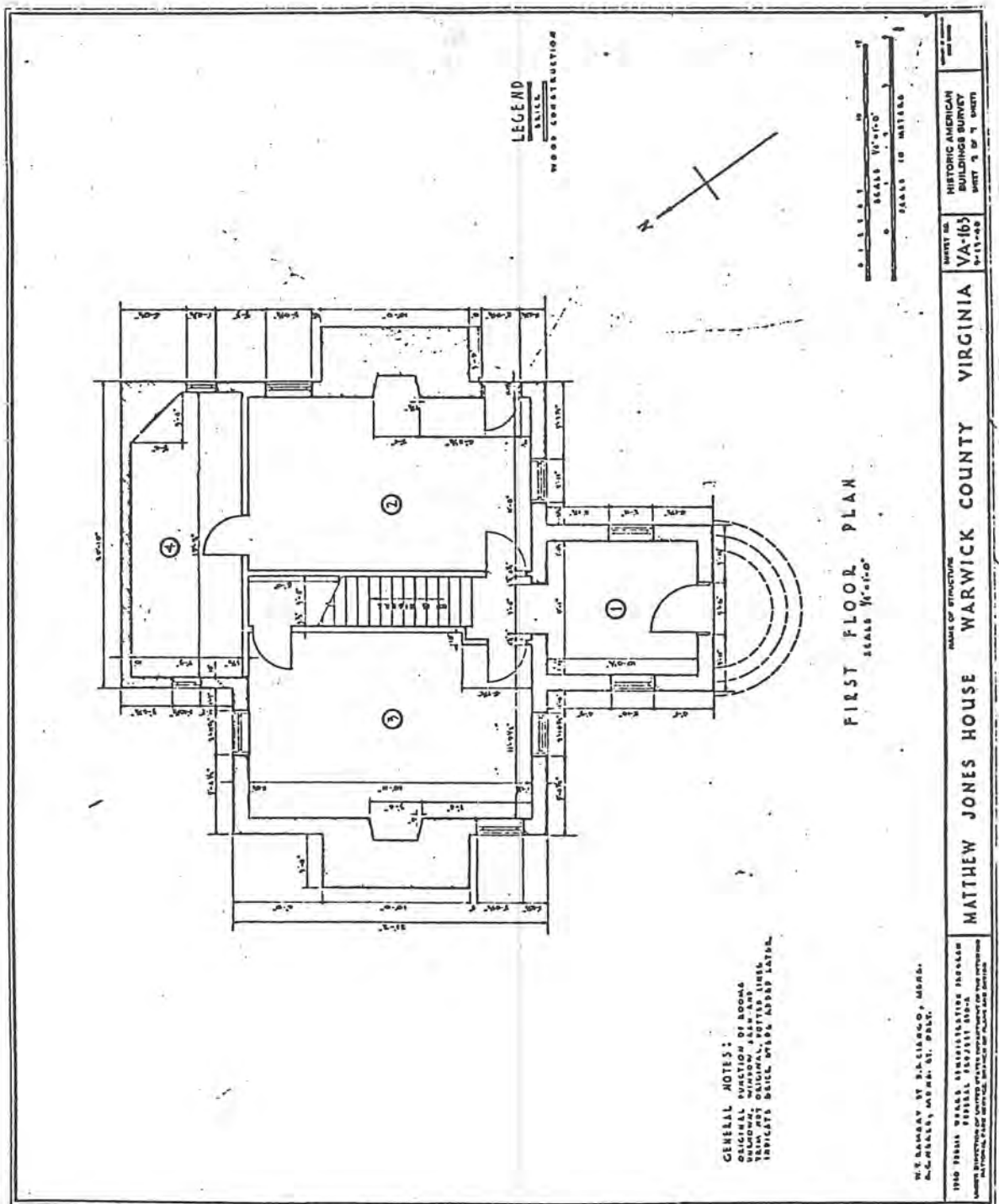


Figure 5. Matthew Jones House, HABS drawing (1940), first-floor plan.

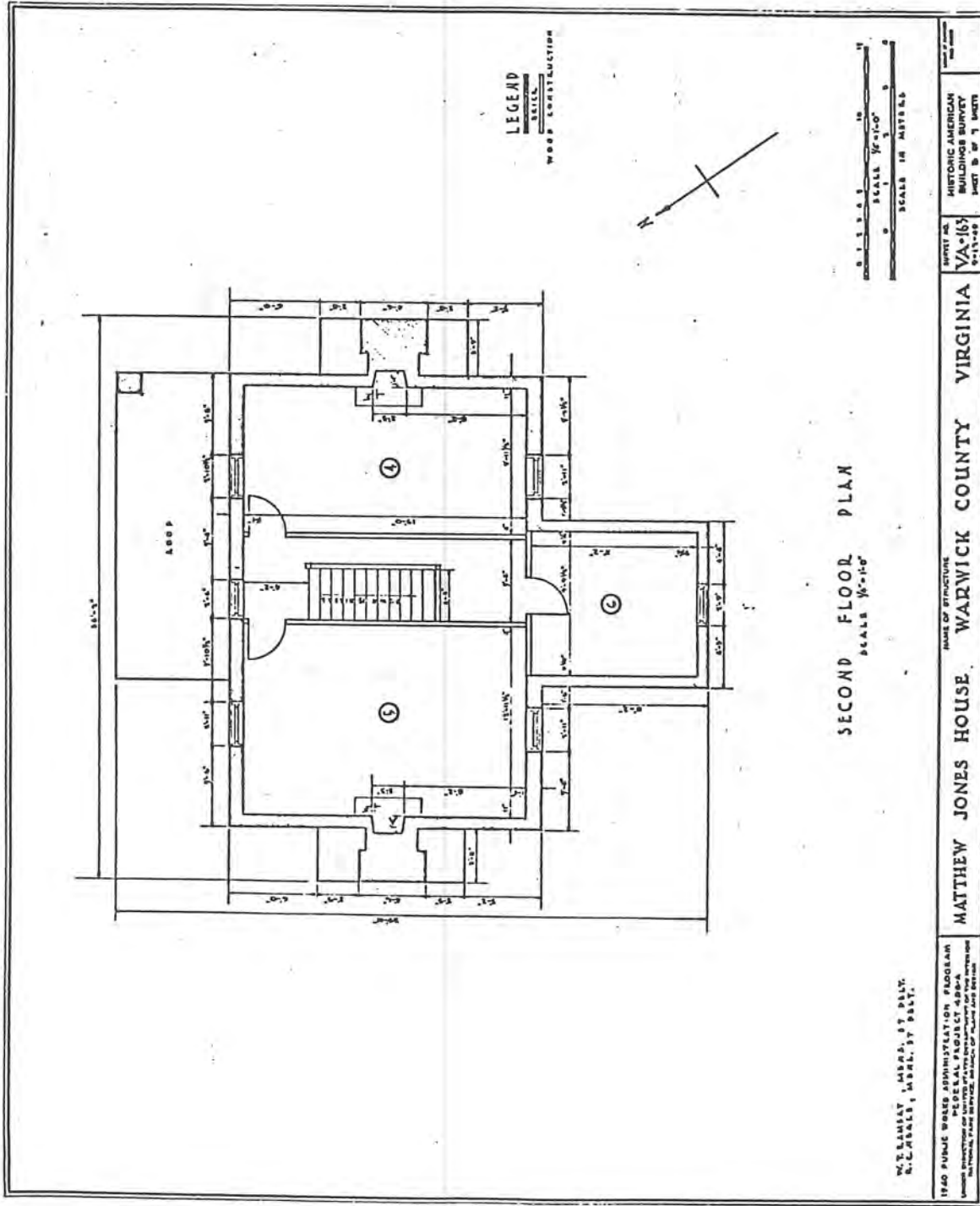


Figure 6. Matthew Jones House, HABS drawing (1940), second-floor plan.

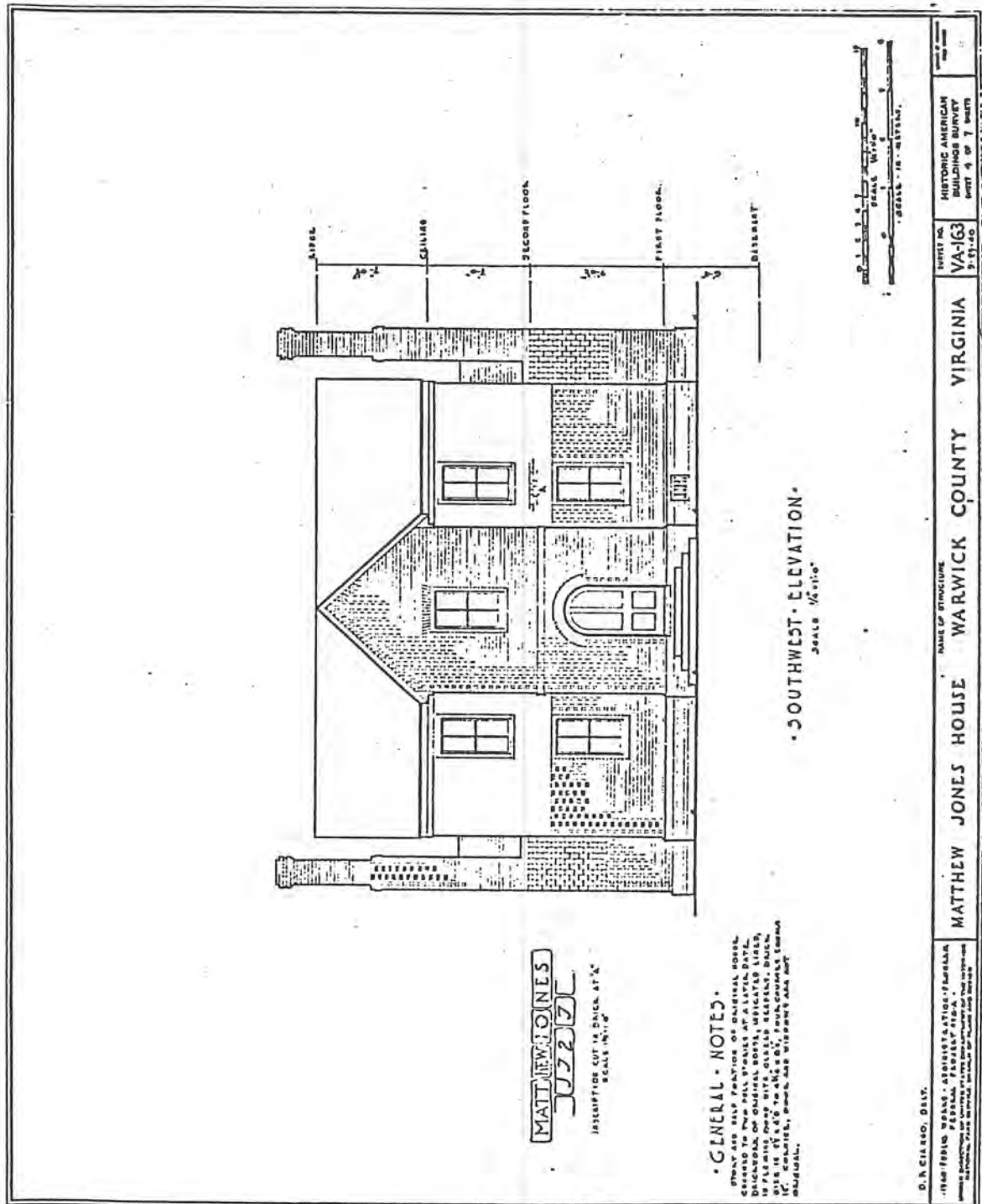


Figure 7. Matthew Jones House, HABS drawing (1940), southwest elevation.

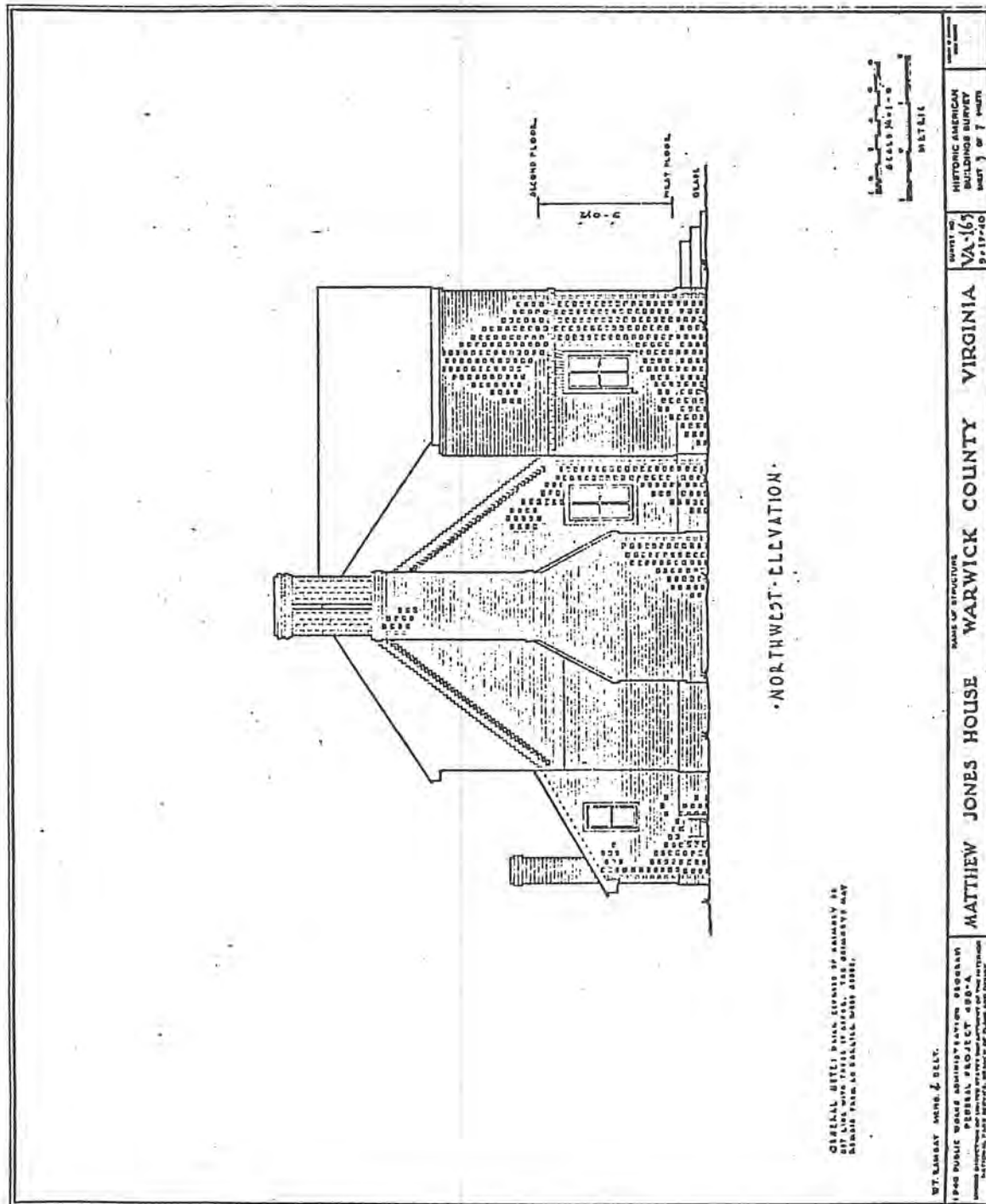


Figure 8. Matthew Jones House, HABS drawing (1940), northwest elevation.

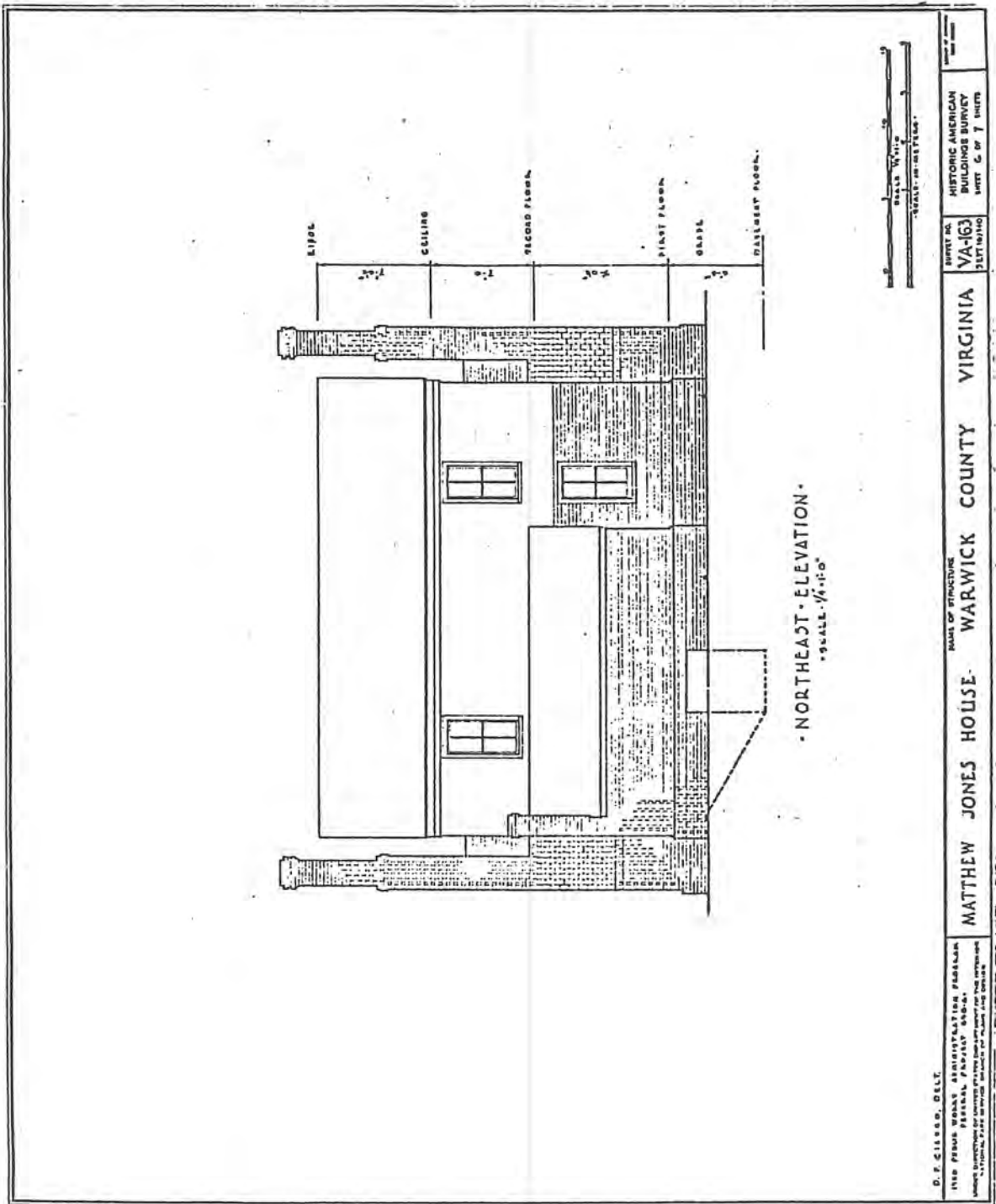


Figure 9. Matthew Jones House, HABS drawing (1940), northeast elevation.

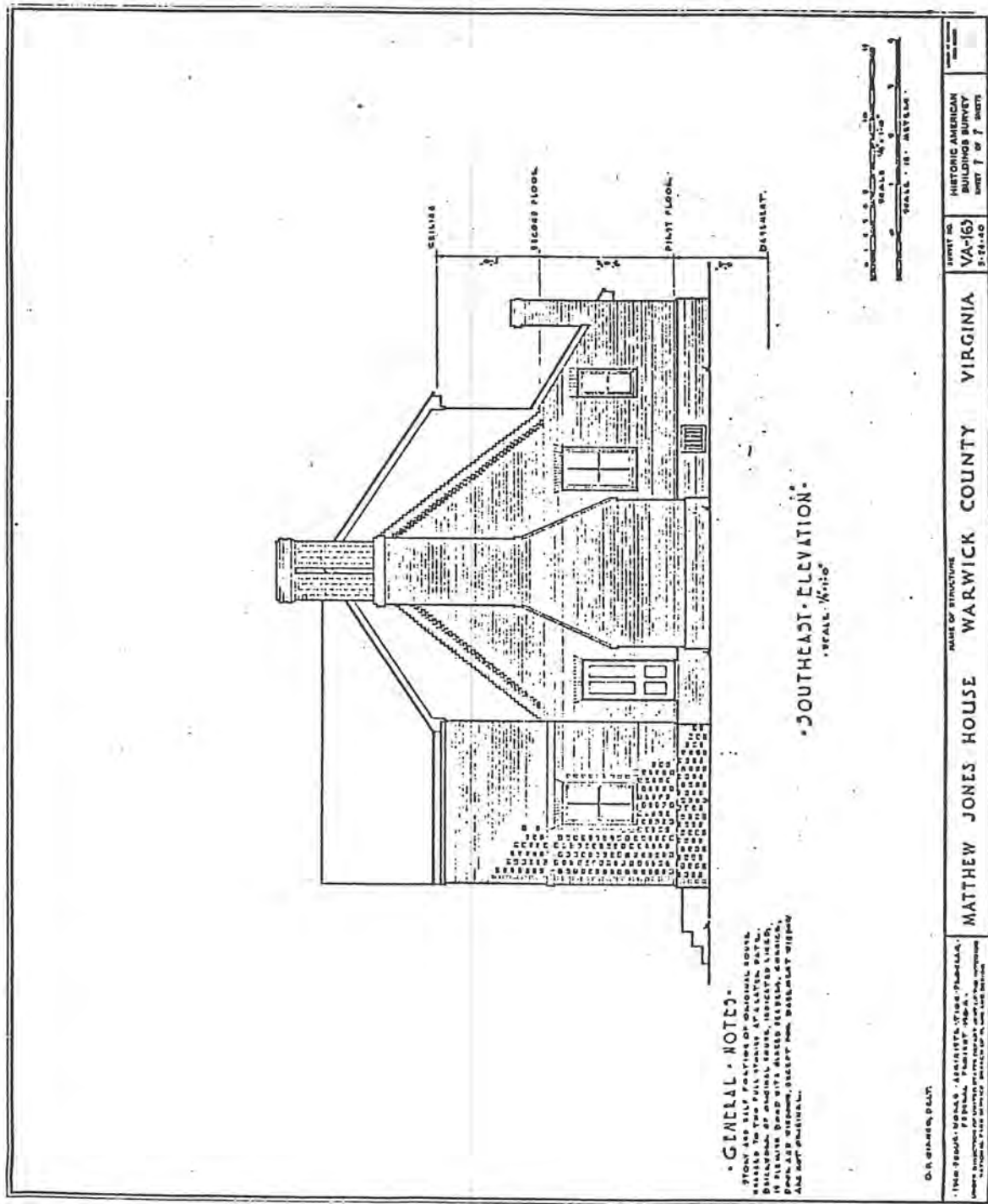


Figure 10. Matthew Jones House, HABS drawing (1940), southeast elevation.

projects are to be judged (Burns 1989:234-238). These standards are divided into four general parts:

- Standard I. Documentation shall adequately explicate and illustrate what is significant or valuable about the historic building, site, structure, or object being documented.
- Standard II. Documentation shall be prepared accurately from reliable sources with limitations clearly stated to permit independent verification of the information.
- Standard III. Documentation shall be prepared on materials that are readily reproducible, durable, and in standard sizes.
- Standard IV. Documentation shall be clearly and concisely produced.

Both Standards III and IV have been satisfied. The drawings were prepared on issued HABS sheets and are readily reproducible and durable. They are currently housed in the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress for safekeeping. The entire package, while brief, is both clear and concise.

Much has been learned about the Matthew Jones House since the production of the HABS drawings in 1940. In 1941, a handwritten note was added to the data sheet which reads "chimneys seem to have belonged to an earlier, perhaps frame house." Since this date, architectural historians have discovered more evidence of the Period I configuration of the structure and determined more precisely the dates of subsequent alterations. In order for the HABS drawings to be brought into compliance with Standard I, they need to adequately describe the original building configuration and all subsequent significant alterations.

The present set of drawings makes no distinction between periods of alterations and ignores all evidence of change within the house. The following work is needed to satisfy the Secretary's requirements for documentation:

1. Interpretative plans of the cellar and first and second floors. These would identify the periods of construction for each component illustrated and

should include the recording of evidence for now-missing items such as the original framing for the rear wall, associated fenestration, and the Period I and Period II partition locations.

2. Longitudinal and transverse sections, illustrating construction and framing techniques employed, giving relative sizes of spaces, and showing what early interior finish can be ascertained. The transverse section should cut through the tower, main block, shed, and cellar.
3. Details of the four remaining framing members of the Period I structure. This should include at least elevations of the front and rear plates and two joists, along with a section through each member. All joinery and moldings should be delineated. The original gable stud locations, joist spacing, stair opening, and wall framing is to be included with the elevation of the rear plate. A wall section should be drawn describing the original condition. Information about the plate, studs, posts, tilted false plate, and rafters are all known.
4. Details of decorative brickwork around a Period II window, showing the pattern of gauged and rubbed bricks; roof framing detail of the porch tower; plan and elevation of the two fireplaces detailing original conditions and later infill.
5. Site plan and cover sheet.

The current photographic documentation is not in compliance with the Secretary's standards. The minimal level of documentation requires photographs with large-format negatives of the exterior and interior of the building. No interior photographs were taken of the Matthew Jones House and these will be required. It would be useful to provide new photographs of the exterior to show the building in its present condition. Detail shots of the various door and window types, original framing, fireplaces, cellar, and the blocked Period II window should be recorded in this medium. All photographs should be corrected for perspective and be adequately labeled. The Secretary's standards require archival negatives and contact prints.

The written history and description are lacking for this project. It can be assembled based on the historical chapter in the report but should conform to the Secretary's Standards.

All new drawings, written data, and photographs are required to meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for content and quality of materials.

Dendrochronology Studies

Two studies were commissioned by the Department of the Army (DOA) at Fort Eustis to determine the dates of selected timbers in the Matthew Jones House. These were carried out by the American Institute of Dendrochronology under the direction of Herman J. Heikkenen. The resulting reports were entitled *The Last Year of Tree Growth for Selected Timbers within the Matthew Jones House as Derived by the Key-Year Dendrochronology Technique* (Heikkenen et al. 1984) and *The Last Year of Tree Growth for Selected Timbers within the Tower and Attic of the Matthew Jones House as Derived by the Key-Year Dendrochronology Technique* (Heikkenen et al. 1986).

Methodology. Heikkenen uses a process of his design and patent known as the "key-year technique" (Heikkenen 1984; Heikkenen and Edwards 1983). This process has served as the basis for the majority of dendrochronology studies undertaken in the Chesapeake over the past decade. Although several problems have been encountered with its use, it has proven to be generally reliable.

For the 1984 study, a total of 19 samples were taken from what was thought to be Period II timber (now known to date to 1729). The samples were extracted either by coring or by sawing a section of the selected timber. The timbers chosen for sampling include two joists from the second floor of the tower, parts of a window discarded in the cellar, a wood member identified as a cellar window lintel, nine floor joists in the shed thought to have been reused from the main block, and the sills that support the joists between the main block and the shed. Only one of the tower joists was useable.

The timbers from the house were crossdated by aligning the key-year pattern with an established area oak pattern. The year of best fit was 1729. The chi-square value for that year was 13.61 (the higher the chi-square value, the better the pattern fit). For the next two years of best fit, the chi-square values were 8.83 and 8.74 respectively.

This method determined that trees used to construct what we now know as Period II members were felled

after they completed growing in 1729 but before the beginning of the 1730 season. The lack of insect damage indicates that the trees were worked and used shortly after felling, probably during the summer of 1730.

The report recommended that a second dendrochronology study be undertaken to resolve further questions about the dwelling. The two most significant questions were (1) to determine whether these members were original to the tower and not reused from elsewhere in the structure and to give a more statistically valid date for them, and (2) to date the late nineteenth-century alterations. Both of these were accomplished in the second report.

In the 1986 study, architectural historians from the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation determined that the joists and two sets of rafter pairs in the tower were original to that feature. Ten joists and two rafters were tested. In the nineteenth-century framing in the main block, 21 studs were sampled along with four joists.

For the tower, the best year of fit was again determined to be 1729, with a chi-square value of 7.78. The next two years of best fit had chi-square values of 4.67 and 4.44 respectively. For the nineteenth-century work, the year of best fit was 1892. Its chi-square value was 19.0, significantly higher than for any other year of fit. The next highest value was 4.39.

Archaeological Excavations at the Matthew Jones Site (44NN4) in 1980

In 1980, an archaeological survey was undertaken on the site by the Department of Anthropology, College of William and Mary, to assess the potential for a larger cultural and ecological study of Mulberry Island. Although the Matthew Jones House site was thought to be a rich archaeological source, it had been disturbed by modern regrading, the construction of a sewage treatment facility nearby, and twentieth-century construction and demolition. Because of this, Theodore Reinhart and Judith Habicht, principal investigators, chose to terminate the project after six days of testing (Reinhart and Habicht 1981).

Little of historical significance was uncovered from this excavation. A road bed that ran in front of the house was discovered, but the date was not determined. A brick pier was unearthed near the south corner of the house and was suggested to be part of a porch. More

likely, it served as the foundation for a frame addition that once extended beyond this end of the house. Artifacts proved to be as scarce as architectural features. Most of those recovered dated from the late nineteenth century, with the possible exception of a kaolin pipe stem.

Phase I Archaeological Study

From 1985 to 1988, Mid-Atlantic Archaeological Research Associates prepared a Phase I archaeological survey for the U.S. Army Transportation Center and Fort Eustis entitled *Phase I Archaeological Survey for Fort Eustis and Fort Story, Cities of Newport News and Virginia Beach, Virginia*. The report's aim was to "provide a comprehensive map of cultural resources sites and site-sensitive areas" within Forts Eustis and Story (Opperman and Polk 1989:i). Both historic and prehistoric sites were identified during this study.

Of particular interest to the current project is the discovery that Mulberry Island was divided into plantations and small tracts in the early seventeenth century. Significant occupation occurred during the next 200 years. Throughout this period, the island remained rural and was characterized by dispersed farms. It was fortified by the Confederate Army in 1861-1862 as a defensive position during the Peninsula campaign, but it saw little activity. Some physical remains of this defensive structure survive. The traditional nature of the island survived until late in the nineteenth century, when the land was subdivided and at least two industrial/commercial facilities were constructed (Opperman and Polk 1989:iii, 28-30). The development of the island is reflected by periods of change at the Matthew Jones site.

Disturbance near the house is noted as possibly heavy to moderate. A few areas are indicated as possibly undisturbed (Opperman and Polk 1989:62). The potential for these areas to yield archaeological data on historic features related to the Jones farm has been compromised, although not eliminated. This is confirmed by the excavations undertaken for this report and by Reinhart and Habicht's work in 1981.

Archaeological resources identified during the Phase I study that are pertinent to the Jones farm include a cemetery that was destroyed by the construction of a road nearby and three seventeenth-century archaeological sites (44NN165, 44NN201, 44NN223). These latter sites are all located on the lower half of the

island, but present a fair portrait of how the area appeared during the second half of the seventeenth century. Site 44NN165 dates from the mid- to late seventeenth century and likely includes an earthfast house belonging to a middling farmer (Opperman and Polk 1989:103, 178).

Future development plans for Fort Eustis list one possible intrusion on the Matthew Jones House site. A proposed parking lot and surplus facility would have an indirect impact due to proximity to the house. The mitigation option recommended is to avoid Site 44NN4 (the Matthew Jones House); otherwise no other construction activity is anticipated in the area (Opperman and Polk 1989:205, 213).

National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form

Dorothy E. Ellesin and Calder C. Loth prepared a National Register of Historic Places nomination for the house in 1968. The nomination provides a tantalizing historical account for the site, but the lack of documentation makes it difficult to substantiate all claims made. However, because most Warwick County court records of the pre-Civil War era have been lost, any documentary sources referring to the site are significant. The report states that,

previously known as "Bourbon House Farm," the Matthew Jones House derives its name from an inscription over the doorway of the original kitchen which said "Matthew Jones 1727." When the kitchen was demolished in 1893 to provide brick for the remodelling of the main house this inscription was lost. At that time the current owners placed the same inscription on the house itself. Whether the original inscription did indeed indicate the date the building was erected, or whether it simply indicated the date of the kitchen, or even Matthew Jones' death (for that is the year that one Matthew Jones died) is conjecture (Ellesin and Loth 1968).

The script used in the date brick has an eighteenth-century character and could very well be original (Figure 11). What is of interest, though, is the name "Bourbon House Farm" and the suggestion that a kitchen had been demolished, that materials were reused in construction work on the main house, and that these alterations occurred in 1893. Dendrochronology has shown that the changes indeed occurred that year. Historical research will be needed to document the remaining points.



Figure 11. Matthew Jones House, detail of date brick thought to have been moved from kitchen, reading "Matthew Jones 1727."

CHAPTER 2: Historical Research

Regional and Local Background

Research Methodology

Research began with an examination of historical maps held at the Library of Congress, National Archives, Virginia State Library, Virginia Historical Society, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Library. Facsimiles of maps on file at the Charles Taylor Library and the Hampton Center for the Arts and Humanities were also used.

Published secondary sources from which background data were drawn include local and regional histories and Civil War accounts. Annie Lash Jester's *Newport News, Virginia, 1607-1960* proved useful in gaining a general understanding of historical events that occurred in Warwick County (later Newport News). Fairfax Harrison's work, *The Virginia Carys*, which discusses one of the area's most prominent families and their landholdings, was also helpful. Documentary sources describing military activity that occurred in the environs of the project area during the Civil War were examined, as were records maintained by the Bureau of Refugees from 1863 to 1866. Of special interest was a map from the National Archives that shows plots of ground allocated to freedmen during the Reconstruction era, two of which were located a relatively short distance from the project area.

Benson J. Lossing's pictorial histories of the American Revolution and Civil War were reviewed, as was Henry Howe's *Historical Recollections of Virginia* (1845). Parke Rouse, Jr.'s transcription of the diary of George Benjamin West, who lived on the lower Peninsula during the Civil War, offered many insights. Manuscripts prepared and data files compiled during research on the Warwick County Courthouse tract and the Oakland Industrial Park were also consulted. Research was conducted at the College of William and Mary's Swem Library in an effort to locate general historical references dealing with the history of Newport News and Warwick County.

Early Settlement and Development

The study area lies within the bounds of territory that was called Kecoughtan during the early seventeenth century. The name derived from the Native Americans who were living in the area when the first party of English colonists arrived in 1607 (Smith 1610). The countryside toward the mouth of the James River readily attracted settlers, and they moved into the region in considerable numbers. Although early patents are incomplete, those that survive reveal that the area was a popular place to settle. Colonists established homesteads at Blunt Point and Mulberry Island, and along the Warwick River, Skiffes Creek, and other navigable streams, all of which were located near the study area. A census taken in 1624 and a muster made in 1625 indicate that Elizabeth City (of which the study area was then part) was the most populous of the colony's four corporations (Hotten 1980:182-188, 240-241, 244-264).

In 1634, Virginia officials, acting with the authority of the English government, divided the colony into eight shires in order to establish "more convenient government" and seats for local courts. One of these original jurisdictions was the Warwick River Shire. When the colony's population was tabulated in 1634, the "countie of Warricke River" was defined as extending from Skiffes Creek and Mulberry Island to Maries Mount, an area that had 811 inhabitants and was the third most populous county in the colony (Anonymous 1871:94). In March 1643, an act was passed by Virginia's Grand Assembly to shorten the name of Warwick River County to Warwick County (Jester 1961:26-27).

During the mid-seventeenth century, Virginia society became increasingly stratified. At the top were the councilor-commanders who monopolized the colony's official posts. At the bottom were small

planters, landless freedmen (former indentured servants), and ethnic minorities, such as African Americans and Native Americans. In the middle were a considerable number of Virginians with sizable landholdings. Political authority was, to a large extent, in the grasp of the planter aristocrats, who amassed fortunes in land and slaves and through holding official posts. These men also forged family alliances that furthered their ambitions and perpetuated their political careers. The scion of one such family, whose members provided Virginia with numerous political leaders, was Miles Cary of Warwick County. Arriving in the colony in the mid-seventeenth century and intermarrying with a respected and well-established family, he reportedly accumulated 2,600 acres of land (Billings et al. 1986:55-59). Cary bought a 1,050 acre parcel of Warwick County land from Zachariah Cripps and then bequeathed half of the tract to his son, Henry, who called his plantation "The Forest."

A map prepared by Augustine Herrmann (1673) in 1670 demonstrates that Virginia planters tended to build their seats along river frontage and on the banks of navigable streams. Herrmann's map suggests that by 1670 colonists had settled thickly along the banks of the James and inland along the Warwick River and its tributaries. In June 1680, Virginia's House of Burgesses passed the first of three acts establishing port towns at specific locations within the colony, one of which, Warwick Town, was to be on the eastern bank of the Warwick River at Deep Creek (Hening 1969:II:471-478; Reys 1972:67). Although the 1680 town act was eventually suspended, similar legislation was passed in 1691 and Warwick Town was again designated an official port. The text of the 1691 act reveals that the community had begun to develop, for there were "several houses there built, together with a brick court house and prison" (Hening 1969:II:508; III:60).

Generally, despite urban development at a few sites, the James-York Peninsula remained predominantly rural throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Major plantation seats lined the shores of the James River, where the more affluent planters had direct access to commercial shipping, and a road ran up the James-York Peninsula (Fry and Jefferson 1755). Inland, development consisted of large plantations interspersed with small and middling farmsteads. Toward the close of the eighteenth century, the development and improvement of overland transportation corridors opened up Warwick County's interior to development,

and settlement became more widely dispersed (Virginia Department of Historic Resources 1986).

Nineteenth-Century Settlement and Development

Maps prepared by Bishop James Madison (1807) and Herman Boyë (1826) reveal that during the early nineteenth century two major thoroughfares ran down the Peninsula toward Hampton Roads, one of which followed part of the track of what eventually became Route 60. Another road, the forerunner of Richneck Road, headed toward Yorktown. These highways linked rural landowners with the area's urban markets and gave them access to commercial shipping.

The relocation of Virginia's capital from Williamsburg to Richmond in 1780 accelerated the James-York Peninsula's decline as emphasis shifted inland toward the Piedmont. Concurrently, the region's political influence, population, and wealth diminished. As time went on, the ranks of the middling farmer declined, the number of small landowners increased, and the position of the large landowner became more stable. The local economy remained viable even though Tidewater Virginia's soil was depleted, lessening its productivity. During the mid-nineteenth century, improved farming techniques and a shift to the production of grain crops fostered a revitalization of the region's agricultural economy. By the time of the Civil War, a mixed crop system of agriculture predominated (Brown et al. 1986:Section XII). In response to Warwick County's growth and development, its citizens petitioned the General Assembly to shift its seat of government from old Warwick Town to a more convenient site on Stony Creek, where it was closer to the center of the county's population (McCartney 1988).

Early in the Civil War, the James-York Peninsula was caught up in conflict because Fort Monroe, located at its easternmost tip, was a Union stronghold. One of the war's first battles occurred in Hampton at Big Bethel on June 10, 1861 (Tyler 1922:51-52). During the winter of 1861-1862, the Confederates prepared for a Union offensive that would involve troops from Fort Monroe marching up the Peninsula to mount an attack on Richmond. Because the bulk of the Confederate Army's forces in Virginia were in the northern part of the state, the Peninsula was especially vulnerable to a potential advance by the Union Army, which had considerable strength at Fort Monroe. Confederate general John B. Magruder, acutely aware that his men

were badly outnumbered, ordered them to construct three lines of defensive works across the Peninsula as a deterrent to their adversaries' impending advance, making maximum use of the advantages afforded by the area's topography. In building their second line, Magruder's men made use of the mill dams along the Warwick River, causing the stream's waters to back up and creating a physical obstacle that was impractical for artillery or infantry to cross. Magruder's second line was located 7 mi. below Yorktown, between Howard's (Harwood's) and Young's Mills, where the Poquoson River (tributary of the York) and the Warwick River and Deep Creek (tributaries of the James) reduce the intervening solid ground to a distance of 3 mi. (Webb 1881:47-50). A Union engineer later wrote that the Confederates' fieldworks "were connected by rifle trenches or parapets for nearly the whole distance...every kind of obstruction which the country affords, such as abatis, marsh, inundation, etc. was skillfully used" (Davis 1967:30). Around March 1, Magruder abandoned his first line (i.e., the one that was closest to Fort Monroe) and fell back to his second (the defensive position along the Warwick River). His troop strength had been somewhat reduced because some of his detachments had been sent across the James River to Suffolk and Portsmouth (Webb 1881:49-50).

On April 4, 1862, Union general George B. McClellan set out from Fort Monroe, badly misinformed about the terrain that lay ahead and unaware that his army overwhelmingly outnumbered the Confederates. He had received faulty intelligence from the engineers at Fort Monroe about the Peninsula's topography and his enemy's position, relying on maps that showed the Warwick River as running nearly parallel to the road running up the Peninsula (the forerunner of Route 60). In actuality, the river turns toward Yorktown and approaches the Poquoson River (Cramm 1862a, 1862b). Moreover, the site of Warwick Courthouse was erroneously placed at the location actually occupied by Lee's Mills (a strong defensive position), and the area was wrongly labeled "rebel depot." Thus, McClellan had no reason to anticipate that he would encounter the physical obstacles posed by the terrain and the extensive lines of defensive works that had been constructed by the Confederates to impede his army's progress (Webb 1881:55-56).

McClellan planned to move his troops forward in two columns. He intended his right to march toward Yorktown and his left to proceed close to the James

River, toward Williamsburg (Hare 1862a; Webb 1881:43-45). As Union troops began marching up the Peninsula, much of the local populace hastily fled from the countryside. It is likely that the area through which Union troops marched sustained a considerable amount of damage, for an army on the move foraged along the way, appropriating for its own use whatever lay in its path.

McClellan's men were impeded by Confederate resistance and became bogged down in muddy roads, which were made nearly impassable by the heavy spring rains. After a difficult march, they came to rest on the east side of the Warwick River, face to face with the Confederates' second line of defenses. While in that position, they fought a few minor skirmishes, but the battle at Lee's Mill on April 16 was the only major clash that occurred (Davis 1967:30-46). One of the defensive lines established by Magruder was located along Brick House Creek, probably the creek near the Matthew Jones House. This creek is referred to as Milstead Creek on various modern maps (Davis 1967:33) (see Figure 3).

On April 17, 1862, General Joseph P. Johnston arrived on the Peninsula to assume the Confederate command. Assessing the situation, he decided that the Warwick River line was an untenable position. Wary of attempting to defend the Peninsula with 53,000 men (3,000 of whom were sick) against 133,000 Union soldiers, Johnston ordered a retreat. On April 21, the extreme right end of the Confederate line was evacuated, with the exception of Mulberry Point, which was still occupied and supported by a small naval squadron. On May 3, Johnston's troops withdrew from the entire line under the cover of darkness. The Confederates fell back to their next line of defense at Williamsburg and then began their slow retreat up the Peninsula toward Richmond. General McClellan, having over-estimated the strength of the Confederate line, began lengthy preparations for a siege of Yorktown. Although the Union Army ultimately followed the retreating Confederates up the Peninsula to the outskirts of Richmond, neither side was able to achieve a decisive victory and McClellan eventually withdrew (Davis 1967:30-46).

Because of the importance of the Peninsula Campaign, a number of sensitive maps of the project area were made. Some preliminary sketches have also been preserved. Although the maps vary markedly in sensitivity and degree of detail, they provide far better

coverage than is typically available for areas that were under the Union control. All of the maps that are available agree on the location of certain important features in the built environment.

A map by Charles H. Worrett, apparently prepared while topographic engineers scouted the countryside ahead of the army, portrays with relative accuracy the region's road network and the nature of its terrain. It does not include, however, any of the defensive works constructed by the Confederates. Although Worrett prominently identified the site of Lee's Mill and the Warwick Courthouse, he showed none of the farmsteads that dotted the landscape at irregular intervals (Worrett 1862). Maps prepared by A. A. Humphreys and his men supply a greater degree of detail. These maps show that much of Warwick County's inland countryside was densely wooded and that farms, typically located in clearings that bordered major roads, were sparsely distributed throughout the area (Humphreys 1862a, 1862b).

A road extended eastward from Lee's mill, paralleling the lower side of the Warwick River; its right-of-way was in a position comparable to that of Route 105, Fort Eustis Boulevard. The forerunner of Richneck Road ran from Route 105 southward toward the Warwick County courthouse. Another main road formed an east-west arc as it ran between the forerunners of Route 60 and Richneck Road; its right-of-way is now used by Tyner Drive. Between that road and Route 105's forerunner, several small byways extended to scattered farmsteads. On Route 105's forerunner, between Lee's Mill and Richneck Road, were the Burchet (Burcher, Burchit), Garrow, and Curtis farms. The domestic complex of the Widow Curtis was located between the forerunners of Tyner Drive and Route 105, near the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad tracks, which run in a northeasterly direction. Only the Burchet and Curtis farm buildings were located close to the road, according to Humphrey's, maps (Humphreys 1862a, 1862b).

An undated sketch map that was prepared by Lieutenants Merrill and Bowen (1862), while the Union Army was positioned on the south side of the Warwick River, refines the data provided by Humphreys's maps. In depicting the sites at which officers and men were encamped, they also supplied information on the specific farms that were being occupied (Merrill and Bowen 1862). Humphreys's men, in updating their earlier renderings, corroborated Merrill and Bowen's

work (Humphreys 1862c). The Curtis farm was identified as the site of General William Smith's encampment.

Other maps made by Union Army cartographers depict the project area with varying degrees of sensitivity, emphasizing the defenses that had been constructed by the Confederates. A sketch by an anonymous topographic engineer, whose rendition was more topographically sensitive than those of his peers, portrays the area's road network and identifies the Burchet, Garrow, and Curtis homes that were located on Route 105; he also identified the Widow Curtis's farm, which was near Tyner Drive (Anonymous 1862). H. L. Abbot's map appears to have been produced from the data provided by the anonymous map-maker's sketch (Abbot 1862a). Another map by Abbot (1862b), a detailed sketch whose vertical axis is tipped markedly to the northeast, reveals that relatively small gun emplacements were positioned at strategic points overlooking the roads that approached the main defensive line. One of these batteries (number 15) appears to have been located in a clearing that overlooked Route 105's forerunner, in the vicinity of the intersection of Richneck Road and Route 105. It may be the same military feature that is identified on a 1904 topographic quadrangle sheet (USGS 1904). When A. A. Humphreys produced a more comprehensive map that showed the entire lower portion of the James-York Peninsula, this relatively small battery and others like it were not depicted (Humphreys 1862d).

One major problem that confronted federal officials both before and after the war was how to provide food, shelter, and employment for the former slaves who fled in large numbers to the lower Peninsula, seeking the protection of the Union Army. Termed "contrabands of war" by General Benjamin F. Butler, these African Americans arrived in a steady stream. Many of these homeless and indigent people encamped near Fort Monroe and in nearby Hampton. After the war, the dilemma of providing for them was turned over to the Bureau of Refugees. In an attempt to solve what posed a monumental problem requiring an immediate solution, the Bureau subdivided private property that had been abandoned or confiscated and leased small parcels to the former slaves, who paid shares of their crops as rent (Bureau of Refugees 1862-1866). Two such parcels, numbers 77 and 78, were located on the west side of Richneck Road and to the north of Tyner Drive (Freedmen's Bureau 1866).

The plight of white landowners was also difficult because the Peninsula's economy recovered slowly from the war and currency was scarce. The loss of slave labor, on which an estimated half of local farmers had depended, coupled with the reduction in rural families' work force, due to war deaths, resulted in a sharp decline in the number of acres tilled. Agricultural census records reveal that throughout the Tidewater, farm families shifted to less labor intensive crops, raising poultry, dairy and orchard products, or vegetables for marketing in urban areas (Warwick County Agricultural Census Records 1850-1870). Many farms were operated by sharecroppers and/or African Americans who chose to remain near their former homes after the war. Agricultural productivity dropped by more than half, and farm size declined by a third to a fifth. In many Tidewater counties, the actual number of farms increased threefold, as large tracts were subdivided when impoverished landowners were forced to sell out (Brown et al. 1986:Section XII).

The advent of the railroad in the early 1880s had a significant impact on the Peninsula's economy because it attracted industry and provided new and expanded markets for local products. In 1881, Collis P. Huntington built a railroad line from Richmond to Newport News. Improved transportation spurred new growth, development, and prosperity (Hotchkiss 1867).

In 1896, Newport News became an incorporated city and was set apart from the rest of Warwick County. In 1952, Warwick County became extinct as the city of Warwick was created. Six years later, the newly formed city was consolidated with the city of Newport News (Newport News Historical Commission 1987; Virginia State Library 1965:29,34-35).

The Matthew Jones House

Historians seeking the Matthew Jones House in the written record will encounter one essential difficulty. In the words of a Union soldier writing home from Virginia in 1862,

...[the Warwick County Clerk's office] was full of books and papers, some very old ones that had been written long before the Revolution by King Georges officers. A quarel was over them but I was lucky and got a handful of deeds and I have one written 1669. I send you some of them.¹

Had they survived the war, the seventeenth, eighteenth, and early nineteenth-century deeds, wills, inventories, guardian accounts, and court proceedings of Warwick County could have provided the earliest links in a chain of ownership for the property on which the Matthew Jones House was built in the 1720s. Nevertheless, it is possible to securely document the ownership of the property and the present house for most of the building's existence (Table 1). Using the late nineteenth- and twentieth-century county records, including the land tax lists, a chain of title can be constructed back to the 1860s. The land tax alone carries the title into the late eighteenth century, as the lists are intact to the first collection year of 1782. The information contained in the land tax and related personal property tax lists also reveals something about the various owners' relative wealth and position in the community. All surviving Warwick County deeds were located in the Clerk of the Circuit Court Office in Newport News. The land tax lists through 1895 were found at the Virginia State Library in Richmond. Personal property tax lists and various potentially informative manuscript collections were reviewed at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Library and at Swem Library, College of William and Mary.

The establishment of Camp Abraham Eustis in 1917 is a logical starting point for documentary investigation of the Matthew Jones House. Private ownership of Mulberry Island properties came to an end as the United States government acquired the land for military purposes. The various tracts assembled to create Camp Eustis are clearly delineated on a map produced by J. B. Ferguson and Company, Engineers, in 1919.² By that date the Matthew Jones House was part of a 264.1-acre tract owned by Emmett Milstead.

Warwick County Deed Books reveal that Emmett W. Milstead, a resident of Newport News, had purchased the Jones House property only six years before. In 1913, for \$4000 plus legal costs, he acquired 220 acres of land via W. J. Nelms, Special Commissioner, from the heirs of William R. Webb. The property was

...known as the "Brick House" including the "Queen Hive," bounded by James River, the Folly Farm, the land of the old Dominion Land Company and John Armfield, being the same land which was conveyed to W. R. Webb by Thomas Tabb and

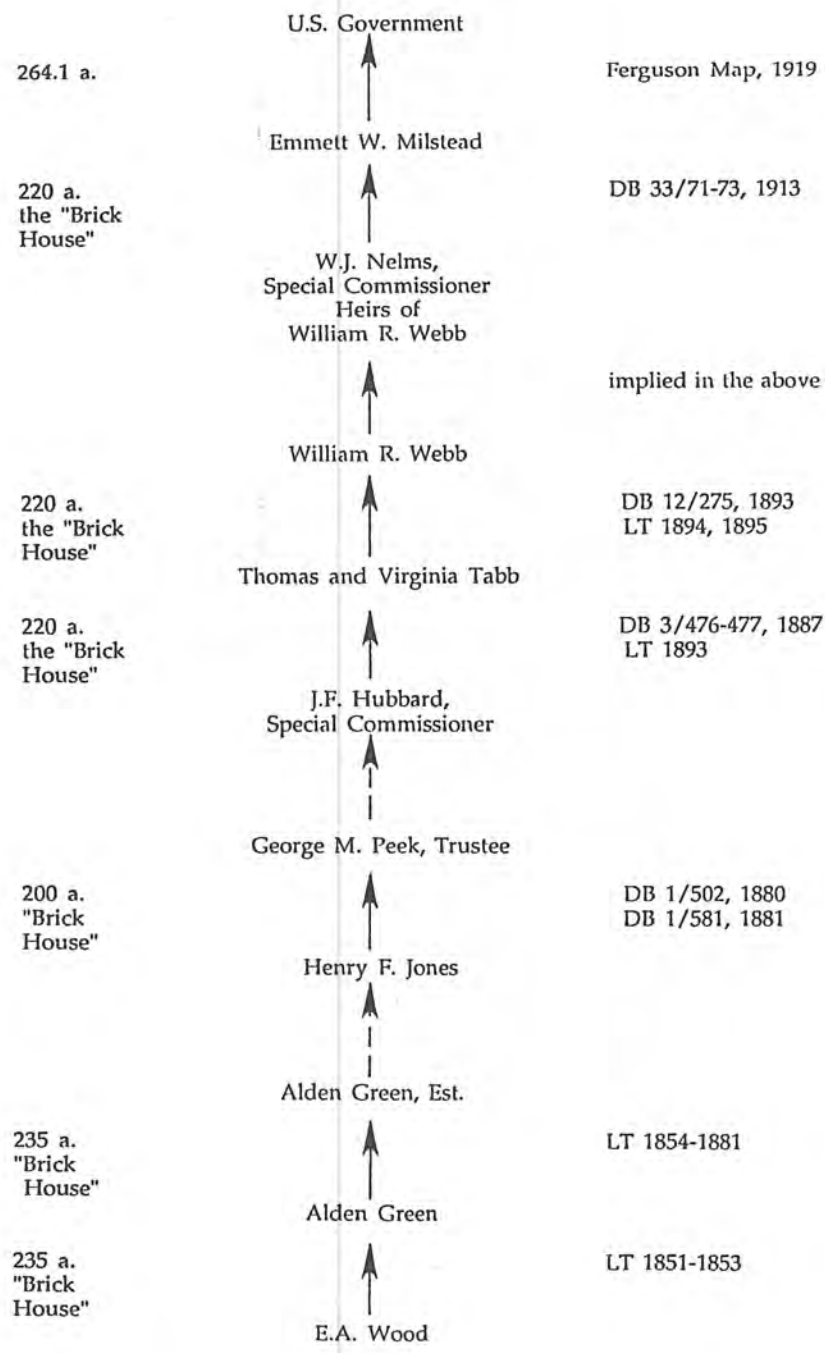


Table 1. Matthew Jones House property, summary of ownership history, 1782-1919 (continues next page).

	↑	LT 1851
	↑	
	Bennett Wood, Est.	
235 a.	↑	LT 1848-1850
	↑	
	Bennett Wood	
235 a.	↑	LT 1833-1847
	↑	
	William S. Jones	
250 a. "Brick House Plantation"	↑	LT 1831-1832
	↑	
	William Jones, Sr., Est.	
250 a.	↑	LT 1824-1830
	↑	
	William Jones	
220 a.	↑	LT 1812-1823
	↑	
	John D. Jones	
	↑	LT 1814
	↑	
	William Jones, Est.	
220 a.	↑	LT 1793-1811
	↑	
	William Jones	
220 a.		LT 1782-1792

Table 1 (continued). Matthew Jones House property, summary of ownership history, 1782-1919.

wife, by deed bearing date the 8th day of July, 1893... (Warwick County Records [WCR] Deed Book [DB] 33:71-73, Sept. 25, 1913).

The same description appears in the deed recording the purchase of the land by Webb from Thomas and Virginia Tabb of Elizabeth City for \$2,250 (WCR DB 12:275). The transfer is confirmed in the Warwick County Land Tax Lists of 1894 and 1895, wherein William R. Webb is identified as the owner of "Brick House," a 235-acre tract acquired from "Thos. Tabb." The bounds of the land are detailed in the 1902 "Report of Processioners of Stanley District" (Appendix A). The report for W. R. Webb's "Brickhouse Tract" is especially interesting as it mentions a "Brickhouse Creek" as one of the property lines.

It is possible that alterations of the Jones House in the early 1890s were initiated by William Webb. He first appears as a resident of Warwick County in the 1894 Land Tax Lists with his newly acquired property. Webb owned only the one tract and, unless he rented accommodations elsewhere, most likely lived in the Matthew Jones House. On the other hand, Thomas Tabb may have been responsible for improving the house, perhaps to encourage its sale since he is variously identified as a resident of Elizabeth City and Hampton. The land tax lists offer no indication of architectural improvement; in fact, by the time Webb purchased the property in 1893 the building value column was left blank.³ Regardless of who instituted the renovations, they were made possible by Tabb's ownership of the Brick House tract, representing a return to economic stability for the property. Prior to his purchase in 1887 (WCR DB 3:476-477) the land had been subjected to a series of deeds of trust intended to buttress the failing fortunes of Henry Francis Jones.

Henry Francis Jones lived at Shelly, a 225-acre farm that he had inherited from his mother Mary A. Jones and father William S. Jones (WCR DB 1:375-376, Dec. 18, 1876; 1:582-583, Feb. 12, 1881; 2:140-141, Apr. 28, 1882; LT 1865-1880). Between 1875 and 1880, Shelly, as well as Jones's other inherited properties, had declined an average of 40% in value (WCR LT 1875-1880).⁴ In 1879, he began to sell and place in trust various parcels of land to finance his farming activities. By 1881, he had sold some 462 acres outright and placed another 675 acres plus goods and cattle in trust (WCR DB 1:447, Jan. 1, 1879; 1:502, May 13, 1880; 1:580-581, Jan. 27, 1881; 1:582-583, Feb. 12, 1881). The Brick House tract was

placed in trust twice with other land to secure a debt of \$1,875 owed Thomas Tabb (WCR DB 1:502, 581). Trustee George M. Peek apparently shared his task with George W. Fitchett, as the latter is recorded in the land tax lists, sometimes with Jones, as the owner of the Brick House property (WCR LT 1882-1888). Henry Jones could not repay the monies owed Thomas Tabb, who, as already noted, came into possession of the Brick House on November 14, 1887 via J. F. Hubbard, Special Commissioner (WCR DB 3:476-477). Henry F. Jones has been proposed as the last member of his family to own, as well as to be born in, the Brick House.⁵ The public records bear out the first claim; proving the second is not as easy.

Henry F. Jones did not live in the Brick House, at least not in the 1880s, but he seems to have retained a legal interest in the property until its sale in 1893. The origins of that interest cannot be firmly documented in the surviving public records. When the Brick House tract is traced in the land tax lists prior to 1882, a number of unsuspected owners are discovered. The 235-acre tract, located 5 mi. from Warwick Courthouse, valued at \$6 per acre, with \$100 in buildings for a total value of \$1,510 (WCR LT 1882-1888), is identified as part of the Alden Green Estate in the 1881 Land Tax Lists. The land was held in the estate from 1854 and by Alden Green himself from 1851 to 1853 (WCR LT 1851-1881). In the early 1870s, according to the land tax lists, the buildings on the property were valued at \$150 and the land at \$10 per acre. From 1857 through 1870, the land reached a high of \$15 per acre, but no building values were recorded. In 1851, when Alden Green acquired the "Brickhouse," it contained \$400 in buildings and was valued at \$9 per acre for a total of \$2,115. How Green's ownership is related to that of Henry F. Jones is unclear, nor is it certain that he lived on the Brick House property. The Warwick County Personal Property Tax List and federal census return for 1850 indicate that Green was a farmer of better-than-average prosperity. He owned 17 slaves in a county where 40% of the free population had none and only 3% owned more than he.⁶ Green possessed a total of 669 acres, most acquired by marriage, during the 30 years that appears in the land tax lists. In 1850, when roughly half of the county population owned no land, Green owned more than did 90% of the landowners.

The 1851 land tax lists include a note explaining how Alden Green came to own the Brick House tract: "By marriage with E. A. Wood one of the heirs of B.

Wood decd.” The property, still intact at 235 acres, belonged to the Bennett Wood Estate from 1848 through 1850 and to Wood himself from 1833 through 1847 (WCR LT 1833–1850). During these years, Bennett Wood owned a 854 acres in Warwick County. In 1850, for example, he possessed more acreage than 92% of the landowners and was placed according to slave ownership much like Alden Green (WCR LT 1850; PPT 1847, 1850). For most of Wood’s ownership, the Brick House tract was described as “E by Ann Cary [or said Wood] W by James River N by Queenhive creek S by Benj. Harwood Est.” (WCR LT 1833–1850). It contained \$400 in buildings from 1840 to 1850 and \$500 from 1833 to 1849; the land was valued fairly consistently at \$6 per acre. ⁴

Again, it is not clear whether Bennett Wood lived in the Brick House, or how he acquired it from William S. Jones, the previous owner (WCR LT 1832). This is presumably William Scervant Jones, whose second wife was Mary Ann Wood and youngest son was Henry Francis Jones. Perhaps the Bennett Wood ownership and ultimately Henry F. Jones’s association with the Brick House are somehow related to Mary Ann Wood Jones. In the absence of deeds and wills for the period, however, such connections are essentially impossible to establish. The 1831 Land Tax Lists do supply an explanation of William S. Jones’s ownership: “By the will of his father, this embraces the brick House plantation with a moiety of Green Swamp which Cont[ains] 30 acres.”

William S. Jones’s position in the county was relatively modest in 1830, though by his death in about 1853, he had achieved a prosperity comparable to that of a Bennett Wood or Alden Green (WCR LT 1831–1853). In 1830, his 235 acres of land and one slave placed him at the top of the lowest 75% of landowners and in the lowest ranks of slaveowners (WCR LT 1830–1831; PPT 1830). Buildings on his “brick House plantation” were valued at \$500, well above the 1830 average of \$375 (WCR LT 1830).

The description of the Brick House property used during Bennett Wood’s ownership persists in the land tax lists to 1812. From 1824 to 1830, the tract was part of the estate of William Jones, Sr., and contained 250 acres and \$500 in buildings. From 1812 to 1823, the land was split into two tracts, one of 220 acres on which the buildings stood and another of 30 acres, probably the “moiety of Green Swamp” mentioned in the 1831 land tax list. During these years, the property

belonged to William Jones, who received it “From John D. Jones, Decd. who was Heir of Wm Jones Decd.” (WCR LT 1814). This may be the William Jones, Jr., whose election to the Virginia General Assembly in 1821 was contested by fellow candidate Miles Cary (Petitions 1784–1858). From 1793 to 1811, the property was associated in the land tax lists with the estate of yet another William Jones, and from 1792 back to 1782, the first year of the tax, with William Jones. The Brick House tract was a fairly substantial holding in both 1782 and 1800, when respectively only 28% and 25% of the county landowners possessed more acreage than Jones (WCR LT 1782, 1800). If the William Jones listed in the 1782 personal property tax was indeed the owner of the Brick House, his 10 slaves placed him well above the average, with only 15% of the county residents owning a greater number.

Again, connections like that between John D. Jones and the two William Joneses implied in the 1814 Land Tax List may be impossible to determine as only a small portion of the seventeenth-, eighteenth-, and early nineteenth-century Warwick County records escaped destruction and theft. Many Johns and Williams appear in the tax and census records, often in the same year, but relationships are difficult to identify with any certainty. Johns and Williams affixed their signatures to many of the surviving Warwick County legislative petitions, proving only that the members of the Jones family were well represented in local government, not how they were related to each other. Similarly, they emerge from the advertisements of the *Virginia Gazette* in the 1770s and 1780s, but neither family ties nor associations with the Brick House property are apparent. Linking the Jones family with the Brick House in the written record becomes increasingly problematic for the years prior to 1782. Fortunately, some of its members owned land and conducted business in neighboring counties whose records remain virtually intact and offer an alternative approach to investigating the property. Nevertheless, sorting out individuals with a less than distinctive surname and establishing their connection with the Warwick County site is a tenuous process at best.

A possibly original brick inscribed “Matthew Jones 1727” was incorporated into a wall of the house during its alteration in 1893, thus identifying a specific person for investigation (Ellesin and Loth 1968). Sampling the early eighteenth-century records of Isle of Wight and York counties, for example, reveals several equally plausible Matthew Joneses, and the search seems even

more complex and inconclusive than before. A number of early twentieth-century genealogists wrote about the various branches of the Jones family, and their notes, inquiries, and interpretations suggest which individuals and connections might be worth pursuing. William B. Newman found the key to the generational structure of the Warwick County Joneses in the will of one Matthew, proved in Isle of Wight County in March of 1728 (Table 2).⁷ Newman believed him to be the builder of the Brick House. The document provides a useful basis for reconstructing the earliest part of the ownership history for the property (Appendix B).

Matthew Jones of Isle of Wight named his cousin, another Matthew Jones and son of a Matthew, in his will. The duplicate Matthews, as well as the use of the unusual name Albridgton by both cousins' immediate families, led Newman to conclude that they shared Matthew and Elizabeth Albridgton Jones of Mulberry Island as grandparents. Matthew Jones was a justice of the peace in Warwick County and, according to surviving quit rent rolls, a comparatively prosperous resident (McIlwaine and Kennedy 1915:2:179; *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* 1894a:232, 1894b (April):372, 1894b (July):13, 1922:344–347).⁸ The Isle of Wight Matthew inherited land in Warwick County from his father, as his will states, but no document in the former county's records confirms the transfer, and the absence of material in the latter precludes establishing a link to the justice Matthew. While the justice's dates and place of residence suggest that he was the patriarch of the Warwick Joneses, this hypothesis remains unproven.

According to his will, Isle of White Matthew Jones had two sons and three daughters; they and his wife were provided for with different combinations of land, slaves, and stock. An inventory and appraisal of his estate was taken in June of 1728 and reveals that not all of his income was expended on labor and land (Appendix C).⁹ A variety of consumer goods, especially furniture, appeared in the rooms of the "old house" and "new house." The old house was divided into "chamber," "parlor," and "hall," and the new house merely had an "up Stairs" and "below Stairs." No locational information is provided for either house. The buildings were not necessarily in Warwick County, and they may have stood on the same site. A milk house, kitchen, and quarter, the latter apparently some distance from the other buildings ("Att the Quartr near Nottoway River"), are also listed.¹⁰

Matthew Jones owned two parcels of Warwick County land and gave one to each of his two sons. Son Scervant, the first mentioned, received the tract Matthew had inherited, described as a "plantation" with an established contingent of cattle, hogs, and sheep. Son Britten or Albridgton received 140 acres purchased by Matthew plus land elsewhere. Scervant must have been a child when the will was written, as Matthew named his sister Margaret and cousin Matthew as guardians.

If Matthew Jones did indeed build a new house in Warwick County in the 1720s, it is likely to have been located on the tract given to Scervant for a number of reasons.

First, while Albridgton Jones seems to have ultimately resided in Southampton County, Scervant established himself in Warwick (Tyler 1928:276, 1929:211–212). In February of 1773, the *Virginia Gazette* reported his death: "Captain SERVANT JONES, of Warwick County; he was a good Magistrate, an impartial Inspector of Tobacco, and in all his Transactions approved himself a worthy Member of Society" (Purdie and Dixon, Feb. 4, 1773, p. 2, col. 3). Late in the year, the newspaper announced: "Whoever have any Claims against the Estate of Captain Scervant Jones, deceased, of Warwick, are desired to make them known by the first of February, as the Estate will then be settled by the Executors. ROBERT LUCAS. ALLEN JONES" (Purdie and Dixon, Dec. 4, 1773, p. 2, col. 3).

Second, Allen Jones, Scervant's eldest son, was a Yorktown merchant. He, too, maintained a Warwick County connection, as the advertisements for the return of runaway slaves he placed in the *Virginia Gazette* attest: "Run away from my Plantation, in Warwick County..." and "... from the Subscriber's Plantation on James River, in Warwick County..." (Purdie and Dixon Feb. 20, 1772, p. 3, col. 3; June 18, 1772, p. 3, col 3) Allen Jones's county residence is identified as "Bourbon" in certain secondary sources; the origin and authenticity of the name have yet to be established (Tyler 1924:146).¹¹ Allen's son Scervant was placed under the guardianship of his uncle John Jones following his father's death in 1787. Documentation of this arrangement appears in the York County records, yet it seems that the strongest link to the Brick House might be found through John Jones (York County Records, Guardian Accounts 1780–1823:103, 130).

John Jones's son, John Jones, Jr., had three sons, only one of whom had children.¹² That son, William Scervant Jones, married twice. The youngest child of his second marriage, Henry Francis Jones, was born in 1839.

Both William S. and Henry F. Jones appear in the written record as owners of the Brick House property. In 1831, William S. Jones received the land from his father, who is unnamed in the land tax notation. At this point, the link between the admittedly speculative pre-1782 ownership history and the documented chain of title disappears. Instead of John Jones, Jr., a William Jones, Sr., precedes William S. Jones in the land tax lists. A John Jones is mentioned in the 1814 land tax

list, but only in relation to an even earlier William Jones. The suggested structure of the Warwick County Jones family is based in part on a will proved in 1728, written by a Matthew Jones, and noting an "old house" and a "new house." As the Brick House, now known as the Matthew Jones House, was built around 1725 and remodeled very shortly thereafter, it seems reasonable to accept the earliest individuals named as likely owners of the property. Unless additional Warwick County material comes to light or related information is discovered in other public records or private papers, the ownership history of the Matthew Jones House will remain nearly, but not entirely complete.

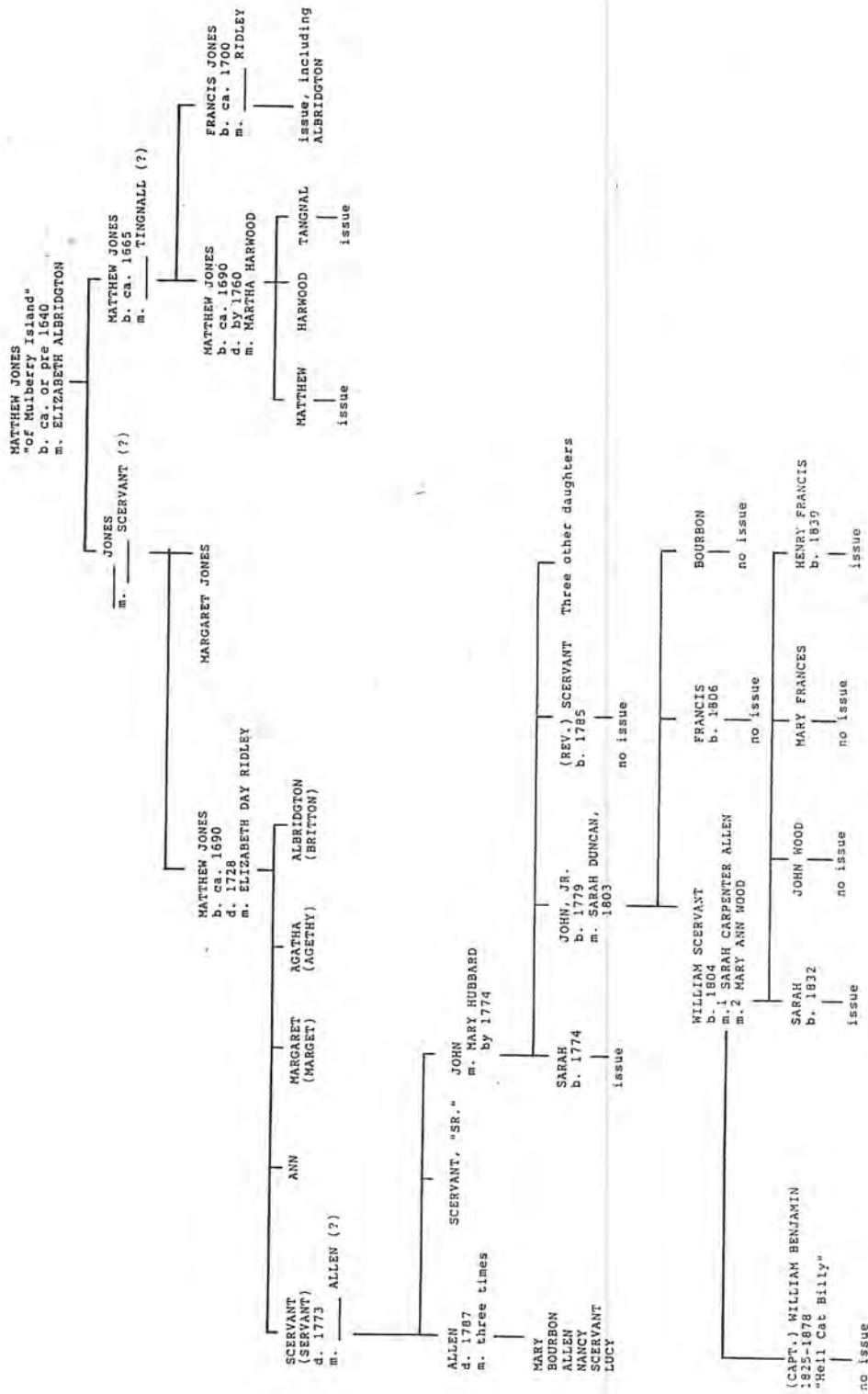


Table 2. Genealogical structure of the Matthew Jones family.

NOTES
Chapter 2 - Historical Research

1. Letter from a Federal soldier to his brother, written from camp near Warwick Courthouse, April 18, 1862, Warwick County Papers, Virginia Counties Collection, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia.
2. "Camp Abraham Eustis Index to Property Maps," by J. B. Ferguson & Co., March 6, 1919, 1:20,000, reproduced in Opperman and Polk (1989:D-22).
3. Warwick County Land Tax Lists were examined to 1895, the most recent year held in the Virginia State Library. No one in the Newport News Circuit Court Clerk's Office, where Warwick County records are held, knew the location of the 1896-1951 lists. If they still exist, the later land tax lists might contain a notation or valuation reflecting the building improvements that clearly were made around 1893.
4. The decline of the late 1870s may have been the culmination of an economic crisis arising from the Civil War. Federal census records from 1860 list Mary Jones, mother of Henry and then owner of the lands which he later inherited, as possessing \$9500 in real estate. In 1870 Henry's property amounted to \$6,000 and in 1880 no value was noted. Federal census records are transcribed in *Warwick County, Virginia 1782-1880: Who Was Who*, ed. by Dorothy F. and Arthur H. Vollertsen (Newport News: 1977).
5. Mary Newman, "Newman Family," Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine 6 (April, 1925): 279 and "Jones Family," Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine 7 (October, 1925): 136. The second article suggests that Jones sold "the Brick House" in "about 1883 to Col. Thos. Tabb of Hampton."
6. Total Warwick County slave ownership was quantified based on the Personal Property Tax Lists of 1782, 1800, 1830, and 1850. A similar statistical profile of landowners was compiled from Land Tax Lists of the same four years. County profiles will be used throughout the ownership history to provide an economic context for the Matthew Jones House.
7. William B. Newman, "Jones Family of Warwick County," Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine 9 (April, 1928): 280-283. The will of Matthew Jones was written January 28, 1727/1728 and proved March 25, 1728 (Isle of Wight County Will Book 3 (1726-1734), pp. 65-66). An "Appraisement of the Estate of Matthew Jones decd (in Isle of Wight County)" was recorded in a surviving Warwick County Minute Book (1748-1762) on July 6, 1749.
8. A Matthew Jones is identified as a participant in legal proceedings in the surviving Warwick County Order Book (April 2, 1713, to March 3, 1714).
9. Dell Upton (1979) identifies this document (Isle of Wight County Records, Will Book 3 (1726-1734) 117-118, June 21, 1728) and suggests its possible connection to the Jones House in Warwick County.
10. The Nottoway River, used as a geographical reference point in both Matthew Jones' will and inventory, is in Southampton County, Virginia, immediately southwest of Isle of Wight County.
11. Ellesin and Loth (1968) also make reference to the name "Bourbon" as formerly applied to the Matthew Jones House. Allen Jones named one of his sons Bourbon and at least one other member of the family, somewhat later, was so called. Like Albridgton, Harwood, and Scervant, Bourbon appears to have been a maiden name converted to a Christian name.
12. Mary Newman (1925:134-136) is the basis for the arrangement of John Jones descendants.

CHAPTER 3: Archaeological Research

Introduction

Archaeological research at the Matthew Jones House (44NN4) was designed to answer several specific questions related to the architectural history and development of the building. These questions concern the dates of the chimneys, the exterior brick walls, and several cellar walls, and assess whether there is evidence for earthfast construction. Architectural historians suspect that the original house was a post structure with exterior brick end chimneys. Test excavation units were placed in an attempt to answer these specific questions and to estimate the state of preservation of archaeological remains immediately surrounding the house (previous research had been done in the yard areas).

Field Methodology

Archaeological investigations consisted of the excavation of four 5- \times -5-ft. test units in the yard and cellar areas adjacent to the house foundation (Figure 12). The test units were hand excavated using shovels and trowels. Soils were removed according to natural stratigraphy. Archaeological features such as builder's trenches and postholes were removed separately and excavated to their full depths. All fill dirt was screened through 0.25-in. wire mesh. The entire excavation process was recorded by means of standardized excavation forms, measured drawings, and photographs.

All artifacts recovered from the test units were sent to the WMAPC laboratory, where they were washed, sorted, and labeled by provenience. The artifacts were then identified and cataloged using a standard descriptive typology (Appendix D). All artifacts were prepared for curation according to Virginia Department of Historic Resources standards.

Results

Test Units A and D were placed in the east and west yard areas of the house, respectively. Both units were located beneath windows, and thus each contained

a large amount of window glass. Test Units B and C were placed in the unpaved cellar floor.

Test Unit A

Test Unit A was located adjacent to the east chimney and northeast exterior house wall (see Figure 12) (Figure 13). The soil profile revealed a black (10YR2/1) loamy sand approximately 0.5 ft. thick, over a very dark brown (10YR2/2) sandy loam approximately 0.3 ft. thick. A sterile, yellowish brown (10YR5/6) clay loam subsoil extended beneath the sandy loam (see Figure 13).

Artifacts from the two upper soil layers dated from the modern period and include whiteware, a ceramic insulator fragment, wire nails, and colorless glass (see Appendix D).

Evidence of a trench was identified adjacent to the foundation wall (see Figure 13). The feature fill was a dark brown (10YR3/3) sandy loam. It extended along the length of the foundation wall, measuring approximately 1.2 ft. at the top, and sloping inward to 0.2 ft. at the base. The trench was 0.9 ft. deep. The trench fill included one sherd of pearlware, one wire nail, and architectural debris (see Appendix D). While pearlware dates from the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, the majority of the artifacts found in the trench date from the modern period. A similar but very shallow (0.3 ft.) and narrow (0.1–0.3 ft.) trench was located adjacent to the chimney base; no artifacts were recovered from this feature.

A thin layer of cement parging covers the chimney base and exterior foundation wall; it was probably applied in an attempt to waterproof the structure. Both trenches appear to have been dug to facilitate application of the coating. This interpretation is based on the depth of the trench and on similar repair-work trenches found at Battersea in Petersburg (Hunter and Higgins 1989). The trenches had obliterated evidence of any earlier builder's trenches. The artifacts

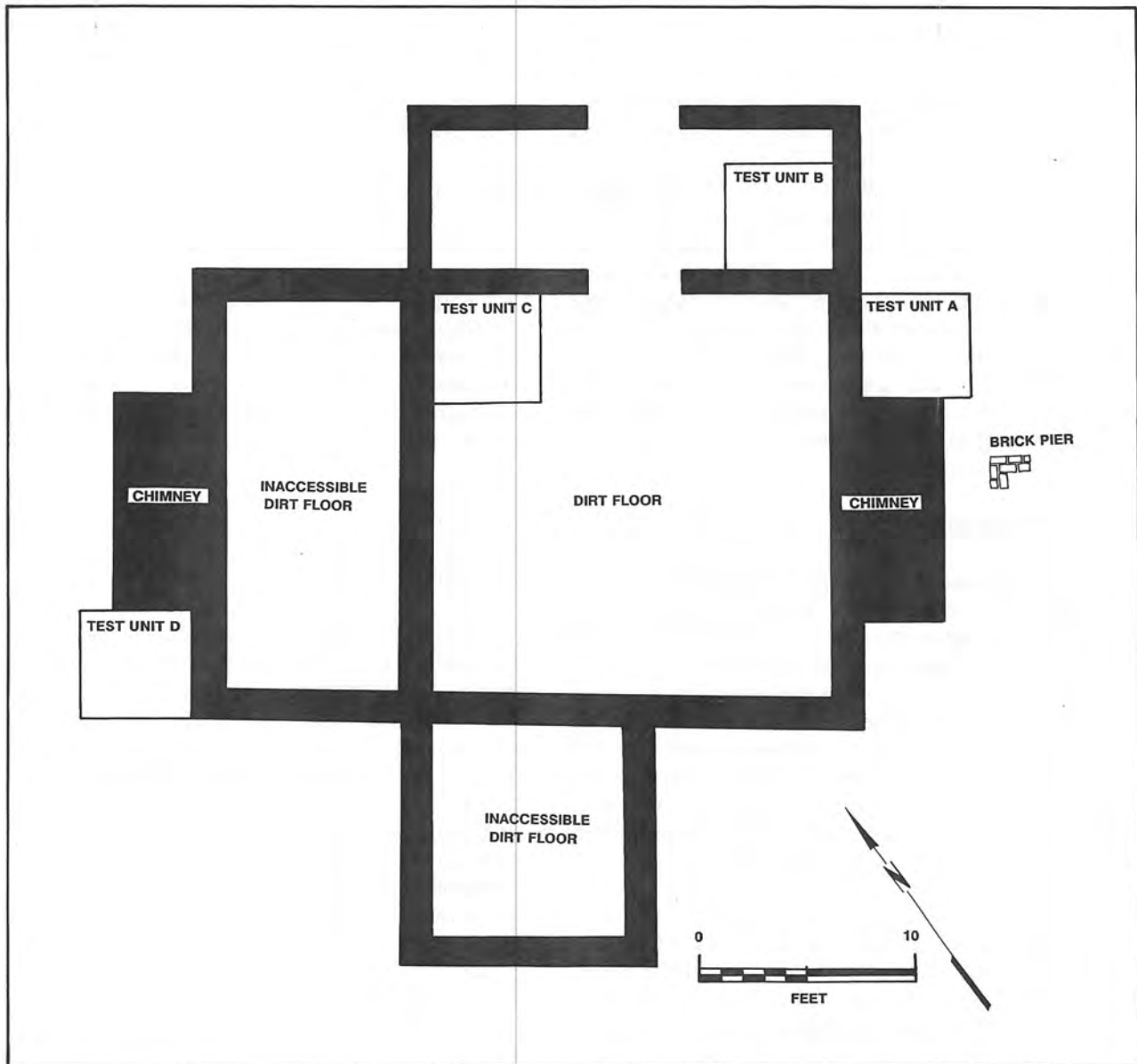
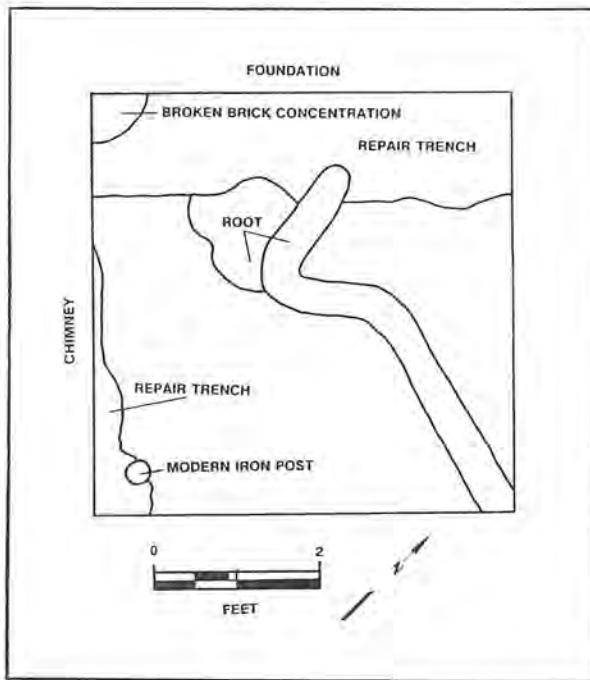
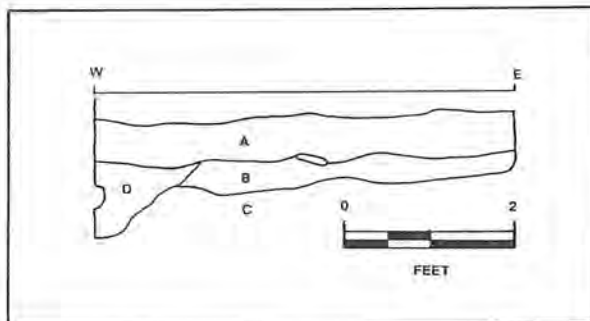


Figure 12. Matthew Jones House, archaeological site plan showing locations of test units.



a



b

KEY

- A - Black (10YR2/1) Loamy Sand*
- B - Very Dark Brown (10YR2/2) Sandy Loam*
- C - Yellowish Brown (10YR5/6) Clay Loam*
- D - Dark Brown (10YR3/3) Sandy Loam*

Figure 13. Matthew Jones House, plan (a) and northwest profile (b) of Test Unit A.

recovered from the larger trench suggest that the waterproofing was undertaken during the twentieth century.

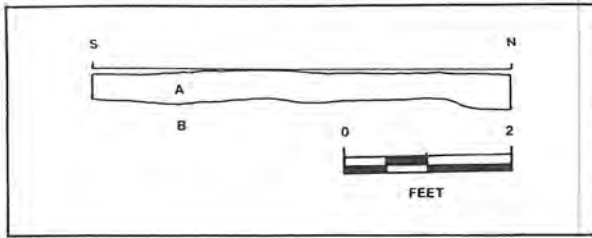
Test Unit B

Test Unit B was placed in the cellar, beneath the northeast shed addition to the house (see Figure 12). The unit was adjacent to both the eastern foundation wall and the foundation wall that separates the main house from the shed. The cellar floor consisted of a dark yellowish brown (10YR3/6) sandy clay loam mottled with yellowish brown (10YR5/6) sandy clay loam measuring 0.3-0.4 ft. thick. It included bits of plastic sheeting, a porcelain ceramic sherd, glass canning jar lid liner fragments, coal, and architectural debris. A dark yellowish brown (10YR3/4) sandy clay loam underlay the surface layer to 0.4 ft. in areas of the unit; it contained similar debris and was indistinguishable from the upper layer in profile (Figure 14). This layer may be related to a dark brown (10YR3/3) sandy clay loam evident only in the southwestern end of the test unit, where it extended beneath the partition wall of the cellar (see Figure 14). Only architectural debris and a metal utility cap were recovered from this soil. This layer beneath the partition wall was not fully excavated in order to avoid undermining the foundation. Sterile subsoil was composed of a yellowish brown (10YR5/8) sandy clay loam.

Test Unit C

Test Unit C was also placed in the cellar. It was located beneath the main portion of the house (see Figure 12). Here, the floor surface was composed of a compact, yellowish brown (10YR5/6) sandy clay loam lens approximately 0.05 ft. thick. This lens was underlain by a dark yellowish brown (10YR4/6) sandy clay loam to approximately 0.2 ft.. Oyster shell, colorless glass, and architectural debris were found in this layer, which was deposited during the modern period. Sterile subsoil consisted of a yellowish brown (10YR5/8) sandy clay loam.

Several features were recorded in Test Unit C (Figure 15). Most important were the remains of a builder's trench that extended beneath the brick foundation wall separating the main house from the shed addition. This trench was composed of a dark yellowish brown (10YR4/4) sandy clay loam and extended to approximately 0.5 ft. below surface. Only

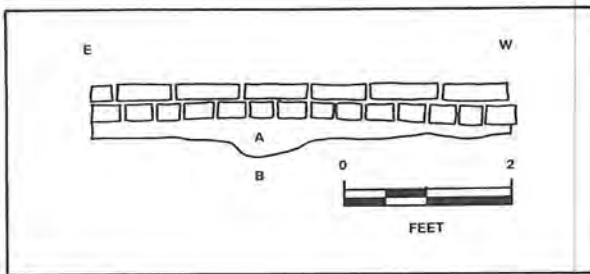


a

KEY

*A - Dark Yellowish Brown (10YR3/4)
Sandy Clay Loam*

B - Yellowish Brown (10YR5/8) Sandy Clay Subsoil



b

KEY

A - Dark Brown (10YR3/3) Sandy Clay Loam

B - Yellowish Brown (10YR5/8) Sandy Clay Subsoil

Figure 14. Matthew Jones House, northwest (a) and southwest profiles (b) of Test Unit B.

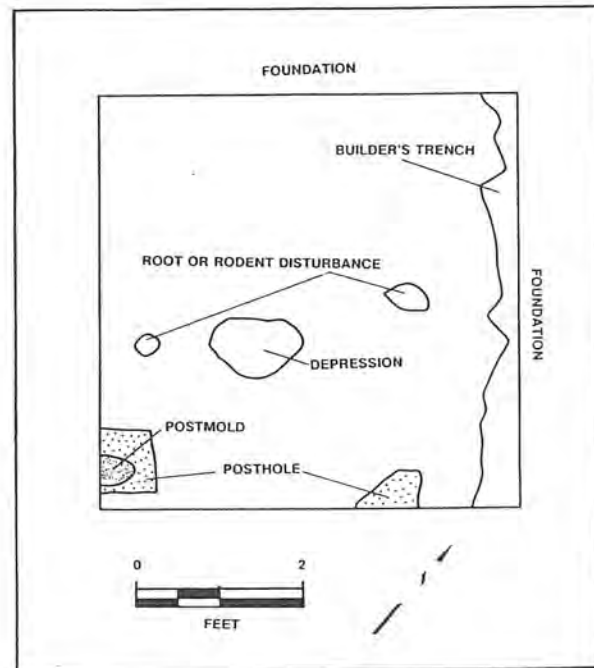
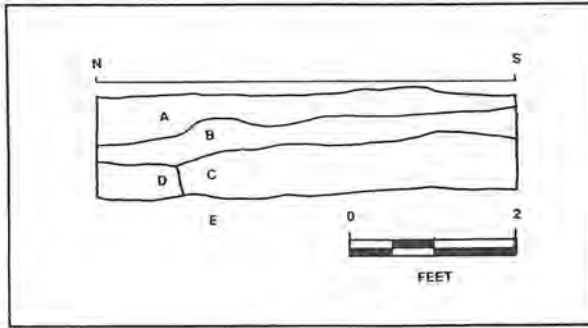


Figure 15. Matthew Jones House, plan of Test Unit C.



KEY

- A - Olive Brown (2.5Y4/4) Loamy Sand
- B - Light Olive Brown (2.5Y5/6) Sand
- C - Very Dark Brown (10YR2/2) Silty Loam
- D - Yellowish Brown (10YR5/6) Clay Loam
- E - Very Dark Grayish Brown (10YR3/2) Sandy Loam
- F - Dark Brown (10YR3/3) Silty Loam

Figure 16. Matthew Jones House, southwest profile of Test Unit D.

oyster shells were recovered from this trench. Two postholes, Features C-4 and C-6, were probably related to vertical posts supporting the first-story floor joists, similar to the current temporary support system. A postmold was found in Feature C-4; one window glass fragment and a piece of cellophane were recovered from the postmold. One oyster shell was recovered from Feature C-6. Features C-7 and C-8 were small holes with loose fill interpreted as rodent or root disturbances, and Feature C-5 was an anomalous depression that contained modern debris.

Test Unit D

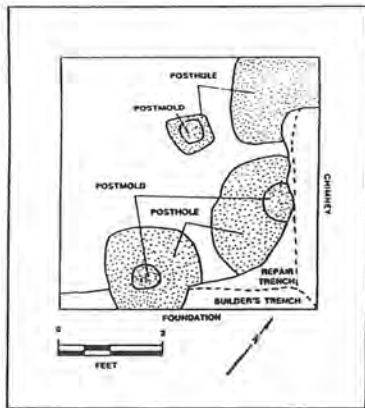
Test Unit D was located adjacent to the west chimney and exterior house wall (see Figure 12). The topsoil was composed of an olive brown (2.5Y4/4) sandy loam approximately 0.3 ft. thick (Figure 16). This soil overlay a light olive brown (2.5Y5/6) sand approximately 0.4 ft. thick. Beneath this sand, very dark brown (10YR2/2) sandy loam extended to 1.3 ft. Sterile subsoil was a yellowish brown (10YR5/6) clay loam.

Artifacts recovered from the topsoil date from the modern period and include an aluminum pull-tab,

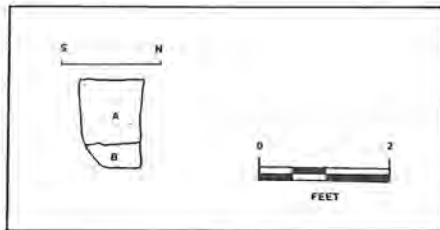
colorless glass, oyster shells, and coal. Architectural debris from the topsoil included a porcellanous ceramic insulator, wire and cut nails, window glass, brick fragments, shell- and sand-tempered mortar, and cement. The underlying layer of sand contained a similar assortment of debris, as well as one fragment of scratch-blue white salt-glazed stoneware (ca. 1765). A noticeably larger amount of oyster shell was present in the underlying dark brown sandy loam. One fragment of green shell-edged pearlware/whiteware dating from the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century was recovered from this layer. Other artifacts include a kaolin pipestem fragment, whiteware, aqua and colorless glass, two fragments of wrought nails, wire and cut nails, and modern roofing tacks. These deposits are from the modern period.

Features exposed in Test Unit D included trenches and postholes (Figure 17a). A single trench was exposed along the chimney base and foundation wall. Artifacts recovered from the trench fill include wire nails, roofing tacks, lamp chimney and window glass, oyster shell, and brick and mortar fragments. This trench was associated with waterproofing and repointing brickwork below the ground surface. It cut, or truncated, two underlying builder's trenches. The first underlying trench was identified along the foundation wall and is associated with construction of that wall (Figure 17b). Oyster shells, brick and plaster fragments, and one sherd of colorless glass were recovered from the fill. The second underlying trench was identified along the chimney base and was associated with the construction of the chimney. A kaolin clay pipe stem and a kaolin pipe bowl fragment, window glass, oyster shells, and brick and mortar fragments were recovered from this trench. Some mixing occurred in the fill from this trench and the above repair trench, resulting in the inclusion of modern debris in the underlying trench. The builder's trench for the foundation wall cut the builder's trench for the chimney, indicating that the chimney was built prior to construction of the brick foundation wall.

Four postholes were exposed in Test Unit D. One was located along the foundation wall and cut into the repair trench and builder's trench in that location. The fill contained brick and mortar fragments, window glass, and oyster shells. An associated postmold was not excavated separately. The function of this posthole is not known. Two other postholes may have been



a



b

KEY

- A - Very Dark Grayish Brown (10YR3/2) Sandy Loam*
- B - Dark Brown (10YR3/3) Clay Loam*

Figure 17. Matthew Jones House, plan of Test Unit D (a) and profile of Trench (b).

associated with a former fenceline enclosing a portion of the yard or with the Period I post structure; both had postmolds. Time constraints allowed excavation of only one of the two postholes; the excavated fill contained a kaolin clay pipe stem and one oyster shell. A third posthole was located in the northern corner of the unit and may also be associated with a former fenceline. It had been disturbed by a modern iron post and was not excavated.

Other Features

While test excavations were being conducted at the Matthew Jones House, landscape personnel exposed a brick pier in the eastern yard area (see Figure 12). The pier was located 2.2 ft. east of the chimney and is likely related to a now demolished frame addition to the house. The pier consisted of a double row of bricks, one course high, laid in an "L" pattern.

Summary

Test excavations at the Matthew Jones House were designed to provide evidence concerning the sequence of construction undertaken at the house. Builder's trenches were exposed in Test Unit D only. One was associated with construction of the west chimney. A second builder's trench was associated with construction of the west foundation wall. Excavation revealed that the second trench cut into the first, indicating that the chimney predates the brick wall of the house. The archaeological results support the architectural evidence that the house was originally of framed construction with brick chimneys, and that the brick exterior walls were built at a later date.

CHAPTER 4: Architectural Analysis

Introduction

Although compromised by alterations over the past 100 years, the Matthew Jones House provides a rare glimpse into the changing social ambitions of the Chesapeake gentry and an extraordinary example of an all-but-lost building tradition. As built ca. 1725, the dwelling was of frame construction, likely earthfast, with two impressive end chimneys. With a large cooking fireplace in the hall, a first-floor chamber, and exposed framing, the early form of the structure was that of a pre-Georgian dwelling.

By 1730, the site had been transformed into one of "modern" pretensions. The hall, originally a multipurpose work and living space, was upgraded to an entertaining parlor. Both servants and service activities were expelled from the house, and a new detached kitchen was constructed. The old chamber became the new dining room, and a shed was constructed to serve as the chamber. Control of circulation was provided by means of a porch tower. To complete the transition from its post-medieval form, the walls were bricked, and a floor and cellar were installed.

The house changed little over the next 130 years. Then in 1893, as other development was occurring on Mulberry Island, the structure was dramatically altered inside and out. New framing and trim was provided throughout. The kitchen was demolished, and its salvaged brick was used to create a second story for the main house. In spite of such an impact, enough architectural information survives to piece together the evolutionary history of this structure and to reveal the great importance of the Matthew Jones House and site.

Period I (ca. 1725)

Buried inside the 1730 brick shell are four wood members that represent the remains of an original frame house. Both plates survive within the later masonry wall, as do the two end joists. The plate along the wall is virtually hidden from view, but that along the rear wall is accessible enough to give a tantalizing glimpse into the original configuration of the structure.

Along with the surviving two original chimneys, evidence points toward a substantially built, earthfast building with exposed decorative framing.

The rear plate, located along the north wall of the main block, extends the length of the house (Figure 18). Measuring $8\frac{1}{4} \times 6$ in., it is decorated with a chamfer and lamb's tongue stops on its lower, interior edge. Mortises robbed of their tenons (but retaining their pegs) indicate the bay system utilized in the construction of the Period I frame. The now-missing posts were flanked by well-executed stops on the plate (Figure 19). The north end of the plate has been defaced due to subsequent alterations.

Exposed, decorative framing was common in the Chesapeake during the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries (Upton 1979:74). For middling people, this tradition survived into the nineteenth century. The auxiliary house or dependency at Fairfield (ca. 1810) in Hanover County, for instance, utilizes hand-planed principal wall framing. Only the space between the posts and plates was plastered. In spite of some late examples, decorative framing, seen often in early houses, had become old-fashioned by the mid-eighteenth century and therefore fell out of use by the gentry. Some early examples include Pear Valley in Northampton County (probably dating to the second quarter of the eighteenth century), Belle Air in Charles City County (ca. 1725), and Sweet Hall in King William County (ca. 1720-1730). Dating from 1665, Bacon's Castle is Virginia's earliest surviving domestic building (Andrews 1984:6). Although constructed of brick, it too has exposed, decorated ceiling joists.

At the Matthew Jones House, the original posts and studs below the rear wall plate are missing, yet much can be surmised from the remaining evidence. Only four posts were used along the plate's length, including two corner posts. Undoubtedly the posts were also chamfered and included stops, a decorative scheme found at other sites like Pear Valley and Belle Air (Figures 20 and 21).



Figure 18. Matthew Jones House, original rear plate of house, now supported by modern framing and carrying 1893 joists.

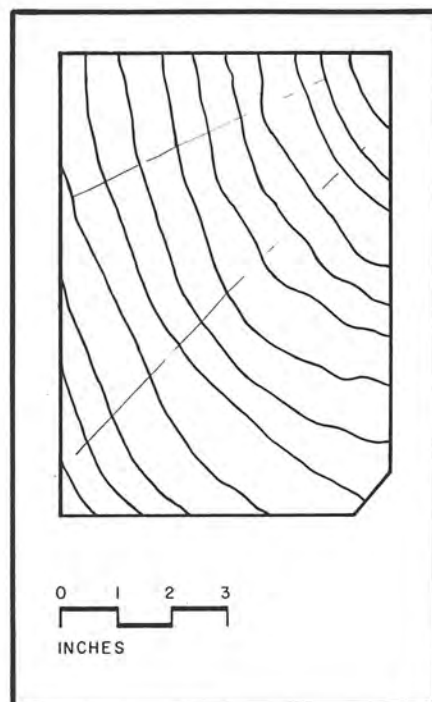


Figure 19. Matthew Jones House, section through rear plate showing chamfer on lower edge.



Figure 20. Pear Valley, original front wall. Note the exposed plate, corner, and door posts. The ceiling was originally exposed as well, and later was plastered. (Photo credit: Willie Graham, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.)



Figure 21. Belle Air, interior wall elevation. As at the Matthew Jones House, the partition to left does not intersect the longitudinal wall at a major post. (Photo credit: Mark R. Wenger, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.)

The size of the original posts can be determined once the modern framing below the plate is removed. The use of chamfer stops on the plate above the posts and decorative framing schemes used in other early Virginia houses indicates that the posts were meant to be seen and thus were approximately 5½ in. deep, the depth of the plates above. A plaster ghost on the underside of the plate illustrates that the studs were merely 3½ in. deep. These latter members were bevel lapped to the outside of the plate and on the top and bottom of the end joists. Up braces rose from the corner posts and were half-dovetail lapped and nailed to the plate as well. Thus the space between the posts and between the corner posts and the sides of the chimneys were plastered, leaving the principal framing exposed inside the room.

Once a detailed drawing is made of these framing members, the pattern of stud spacing and door and window locations, indicated by lap joints, should be more discernable. There are two generations of joints on the exterior of the plate and these will need to be plotted in order to define the relative dates of the various framing members and the associated window and door openings. The lap joints represent both the original location of wall framing and adjustments made to it due to the addition of a shed, the bricking of the walls, and the excavation of the cellar in 1730.

In spite of the removal of the attic joists in the 1890s, enough evidence survives to indicate that the ceiling framing was also left exposed. The use of a molded plate and the lack of an eighteenth-century plaster ghost immediately below the level of the Period I joists confirm this theory, as does the use of whitewash on the room face of the plate. This latter member was defaced in the 1890s below the level of the Period III joists to accept plaster on the walls and ceiling, but the plaster clearly postdates initial construction.

The other two wooden artifacts surviving from the initial building phase are the two end joists. Measuring 6 in. wide × 7 in. tall, that in the east room was chamfered, while the west joist was molded with a cyma (Figure 22). Stops are used where the joists meet the plate. The subtle differences between the treatment of the two spaces is one indicator that the west room served as the hall, with the chamber located to the east. This relationship is also borne out by the sizes of the fireplace openings into the two rooms. A rosehead nail

was discovered on top of one joist, indicating the type of fastener used for the attic floor (Figure 23).

Of particular interest concerning the joists is the manner in which their exterior ends were finished. One end of the east joist has been preserved because it fell within the Period II shed during the late nineteenth-century renovation. The end of the joist has been roughly rounded, indicating that initially the eaves were exposed. Additionally, this treatment of the joist ends is almost universally associated with tilted false plates during this period, and the same technology was likely employed here.

Similar to exposed framing, tilted false plates can be found on early nineteenth-century buildings, but their use in construction of gentry houses had declined considerably by the mid-eighteenth century. The use of tilted plates with rounded joist ends can still be seen at the Lynnhaven House in Virginia Beach (1720s) and Pear Valley (Figure 24). The Mason House in Accomack County (1729) also has large tilted plates, but the eaves are boxed and the joist ends have been left square (see Figure 41, below).

Although the rest of the attic joists were removed in the nineteenth century, ghost marks on the side and peg holes in the top of the plate reveal that the originals were spaced on 2-ft. centers. The lack of ghosts or pegs for two joists on the hall side of the original partition indicates the location of the stair. Further, two small bevel-lap joints on the room face of the plate note where framing for the wall within the stair was carried up to the slope of the roof.

As there is no evidence of "outriggers," or small joists (usually dovetailed to the plate), to carry the roof at the stair opening, the false plate was likely sufficiently sized to span 4 ft. This further supports the idea that a tilted false plate was used here since these plates tend to be large enough to span such a distance.

All of the surviving lumber from Period I is hand-planed southern yellow long-leaf pine. No saw marks are visible. The exterior of the rear plate reveals hew marks—this was not originally visible and therefore would not have been planed.

The most fascinating aspect of the frame may be its most ephemeral quality. Several clues remain to suggest that the posts were hole set in their initial form.

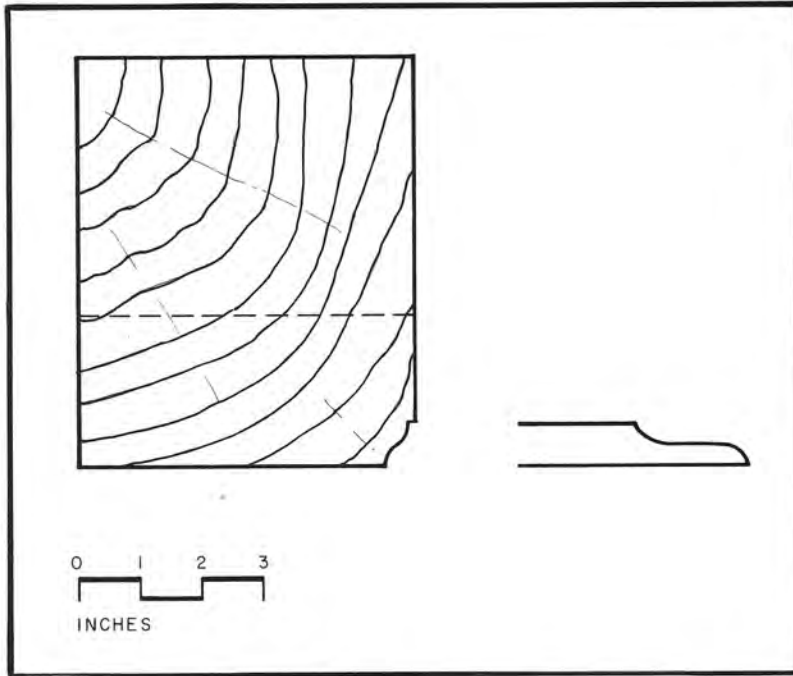


Figure 22. Matthew Jones House, section through original west joist showing molded (cyma) bottom edge and an elevation of the lamb's tongue stop.

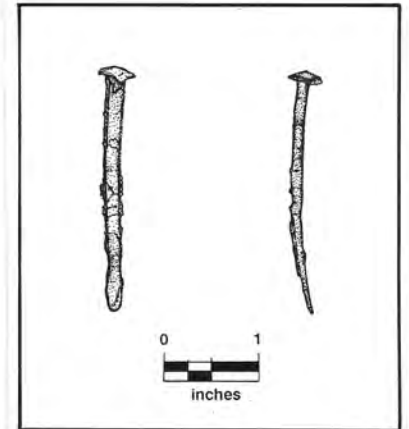


Figure 23. Matthew Jones House, rosehead nail recovered from top of west joist and originally used to secure attic flooring.



Figure 24. Pear Valley, decorative joist ends carrying tilted false plate. (Photo credit: Willie Graham, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.)

Although this technology was once ubiquitous in the Chesapeake, it now survives almost exclusively as archaeological remains. A hole-set or earthfast building is one in which at least the principal posts extend several feet into the ground, eliminating the need for foundations. In better-built structures, interrupted sills lap to and span between the principal posts. In turn, they could carry the floor joists and, if properly sized, could carry down braces.

One of Virginia's last remaining antebellum earthfast buildings was recently recorded by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Built in Suffolk about 1840, the Gray Farm barn's posts were cut off above grade and new sills were installed in 1922, saving the structure from decay (Figure 25). Archaeological excavation along the building's perimeter confirmed that these posts were initially hole set (Figure 26). In this instance, the problems associated with bracing an earthfast structure were solved by eliminating the braces altogether.

At the Matthew Jones House, a half-dovetail lap joint on the exterior of the rear plate indicates that upbracing was used. Up braces are thought to be associated with earthfast construction during the colonial era. The lack of sills, or at least sills of adequate dimensions, makes the plate a more appropriate member to brace.

Moreover, what sills might have existed in Period I were removed when the outer walls were bricked. Had the sills survived the 1730 alterations, they would have been buried within the new walls, and there is no evidence for such an arrangement. The fact that the new first-floor joists were installed in 1730 and the studs of the partition and rear wall were reset indicates that what previously existed was not adequate once the alterations took place. It is uncertain whether there were no sills and joists initially (and thus the studs as well as the posts were earthfast) or interrupted sills were used (allowing for floor joists and a means to carry the studs). Whichever the case, the floor system would not have been adequate. Therefore, new joists were added in Period II. None survive *in situ*, but several are located in a reused state elsewhere in the building. Dendrochronology has shown these members to date to 1730 (Heikkinen 1984).

The foundations around the perimeter of the structure (except the chimneys) are Period II additions.

The archaeological testing around the west chimney provides a clean sequence of building activity. The builder's trench for the chimney is clearly cut by that of the wall (see Figure 17a). There is no evidence of an earlier trench for the walls, and, unless completely destroyed by the 1730 work, no foundations existed here in Period I. The Period II trench was then cut by a posthole that appears to have been part of the scaffolding system used to raise the house to two stories late in the nineteenth century. By inference, the use of up braces, the addition or replacement of a sill on the rear wall, the replacement of the stud partition and framing for the shed, and the Period II nature of the foundations all point to an earthfast building in Period I.

Remaining also from the original dwelling are the two chimneys. Both project 3 ft. 8 in. from the Period II brick gables, and are 10 ft. 1 in. wide. The chimneys are laid in Flemish bond (including their stacks) above and below a shallow water table and utilize all glazed headers. The steep shoulders are tiled with bricks set with their wide face exposed, running vertically. Although closers are used, the corner bricks are not gauged or rubbed. The top three courses of a cap survive under the late nineteenth-century stack extensions, though if original, would place the top of the chimney below the edge of the roof.

To determine the period in which the chimneys were built, their bricks were closely studied. The sizes of these approximately match those used in the walls during the Period II renovations. The earlier chimney bricks measure $8-8\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{5}{8} \times 3\frac{7}{8}-4\frac{1}{8}$ in. The chimney bricks tend to the brown and purple-brown range, with an occasional use of salmon. Few of these salmon bricks were used in the second phase. The later bricks also tend to be rosier in color. Unlike the chimneys, at the corners of the walls, light-colored rubbed bricks were used. The water table for the walls is higher than on the chimneys and is capped with a beveled brick. For the chimneys, the water table simply steps back $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. in a horizontal plane. The water table course of the chimney is laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers, while English bond with random glazing was used on the walls (Figure 27).

Mortar is also a good indicator of relative dates. That used on the chimneys is a buff color with large chunks of shell and lime. That used in the walls is lighter in color, has finer particles, and may be slightly



Figure 25. Gray Farm Barn (recently disassembled), detail of rear wall. These large oak posts were originally hole set. The bottoms of the posts were cut off and a sill installed in 1922. (Photo credit: Willie Graham, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.)

smoother in texture. Both were struck with grapevine joints. However, the tool to make the joints was wider in the earlier period.

Most telling, though, is the evidence exhibited at the juncture between the chimneys and the gable walls. On the side of the chimneys within the room is a thin coat of plaster that has been whitewashed. This plaster surface was sealed and hidden by the addition of the Period II brick walls and therefore represents the original interior finish. The interior face of the chimneys projects 3½ in. into the room at the first-floor level beyond the room face of the original end joist.

The interior of the west chimney was laid in a regular English bond with random glazing. The original fireplace measured 7 ft. 3 in. across and 3 ft. 4 in. deep. The scale of the fireplace suggests that this room

was used as the hall (Figure 28). For most wealthy households in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, the hall functioned as the primary eating, entertaining, and work space, and as a sleeping area. The larger fireplace was necessary to take care of work activities such as cooking and cleaning. Not until servants were moved out of the Virginia house in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries and detached kitchens were constructed did the size of the hall fireplace diminish (Carson and Walsh 1981:23–30; Graham, 1991).

The east fireplace, although placed in a chimney the same size as its western counterpart, measured 4 ft. 7½ in. wide (Figure 29). The inside wall of this chimney was more crudely laid. There is a semblance of English bond to the pattern, but the heavy use of bats and headers and the multiple consecutive rows of header courses indicate that this brickwork is of inferior

was more crudely laid. There is a semblance of English bond to the pattern, but the heavy use of bats and headers and the multiple consecutive rows of header courses indicate that this brickwork is of inferior quality to that in the hall. The smaller size of the fireplace in the east room assures that the east end of the house originally served as the principal chamber.

Two scars on the sides of the rear plate denote where the original partition between the first-floor rooms occurred and suggest the type of joinery used to frame the studs to the joists above them. The scars occur several inches to the east of the present stair passage. Thus the size of the eastern room has changed little since initially built. The partition was moved slightly to the west of its original location during the 1730 renovation, indicating that the studs were initially tenoned and, when rebuilt, were lapped to the sides of the joist (Figure 30). Not only did the Period I studs sit on center of the attic joist, but it would have been virtually impossible to re-tenon the studs in place once they were removed.

For the gentry class, one- and two-room plans were almost universal during the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. The center passage was introduced to Virginia in the early eighteenth century, but was not commonly used until the second quarter of the century. When passages did take hold, they not only afforded the owner an informal sitting room that was more comfortable than the hall, but also controlled circulation to the various parts of the house. Porch towers predate the introduction of the center passage, but were also used as a means to control access. Once it became important for a planter to segregate himself from his servants, this control became necessary (Upton 1979; Wenger 1986).

At the Matthew Jones House, such a tower was built during the Period II (1730) phase. There is no evidence that one existed during the earliest construction period. Had the house had a central passage initially, the tower would have been redundant when built in Period II. More importantly, neither a tower nor a passage was necessary in the initial plan. Since the hall was a multipurpose space that housed service, entertainment, and sleeping activities, controlled access served no purpose. Logically, it appears that the plan of the house was initially conceived with two rooms and no passage on the first floor.

Knowing that a frame house predates the structure in its brick form raises the question of its date. Cross-sections of wood were bored from the surviving three timbers. Statistically few samples, their poor condition, their species, and the lack of waney edges makes it doubtful that a reliable dendrochronological date can be achieved for Period I.

It is clear that the frame house, including the two extant chimneys, predates the house in its brick form. Thus it can be said that Period I must be earlier than 1729, the date trees were cut for Period II. Even though the chimneys have extraordinarily steep shoulders, they are of conventional eighteenth-century design. Nothing about the framing technology nor the sizes of the fireplace openings exclude this building from being eighteenth century nor tend to push the date back to the previous century. Houses with large hall fireplaces continued to be built throughout the century, in spite of being a bit old-fashioned. The Rochester House in Westmoreland County, built during the third quarter of the eighteenth century, and the secondary dwelling at Fairfield in Hanover County, built ca. 1800, are both late examples of houses with working fireplaces in the hall (Figures 31 and 32). Moreover, the light nature of the moldings on the joists and plates are indicative of eighteenth-century work.

Brick used to add a second floor to the house in 1893 is said to have been taken from Jones's kitchen. A date brick labeled "Matthew Jones 1727" was reset in the nineteenth-century portion of the wall and is noted as having been part of the kitchen (Ellesin and Loth 1968) (see Figure 11). Jones died a year after the construction of this building. From the amount of brick reused during the renovation, it can be assumed that the kitchen was of masonry construction. The fact that the hall fireplace was infilled during the 1730 remodeling is evidence that a detached kitchen had been built between the first and second construction periods (Figure 33). The large size of the hall fireplace would have been necessary only if there had been no exterior kitchen. Matthew Jones's 1728 probate inventory lists a new house. Assuming this house to be the house on Mulberry Island, it is hard to push the date too much earlier. It therefore seems likely that the frame structure dates to shortly before 1727.

The Period I structure, then, appears to be a hall/parlor, frame house erected by Matthew Jones II about the year 1725. The house was quite respectable



Figure 26. Gray Farm Barn. Archaeology by Colonial Williamsburg revealed the post hole and mold for this interior wall post. (Photo credit: Willie Graham, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.)

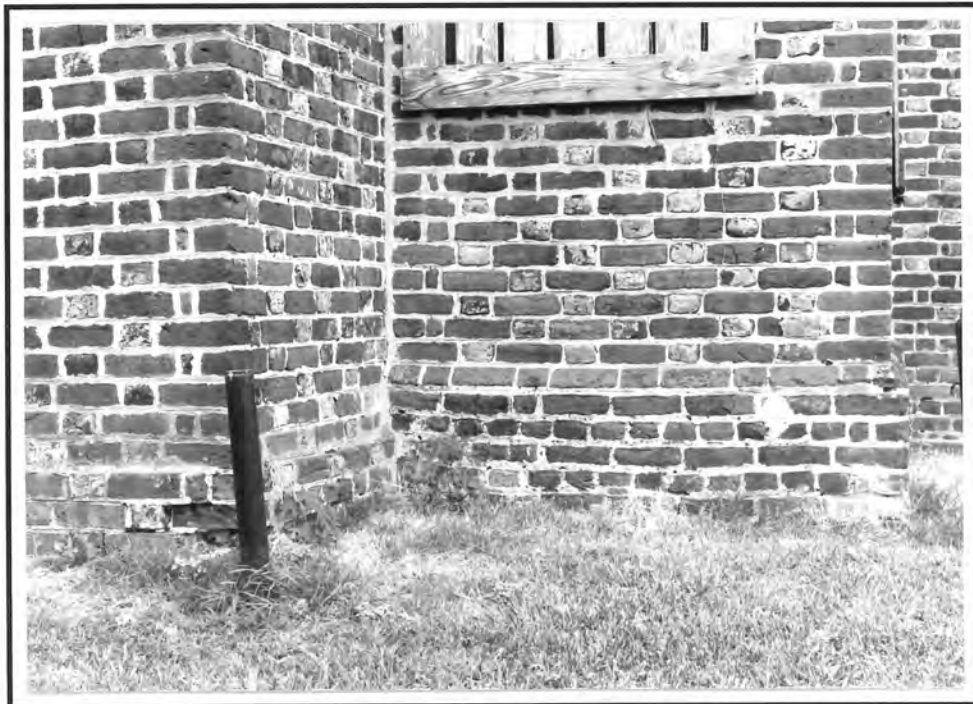


Figure 27. Matthew Jones House, detail of water table at juncture of chimney and west gable.

in spite of being of earthfast construction. The principal framing members were decorated and left exposed, much like the better houses of the time. The structure was quite sturdy; two large, impressive chimneys were built, undoubtedly in expectation of a remodeling soon to follow. The house contained two rooms without a passage on the first floor, one serving as an old-fashioned hall with well-molded ceiling joists and the other as a chamber with chamfered joints. Shortly before his death, Jones built a brick kitchen and memorialized his work by inscribing his name and the year 1727 on the outside. The following year he died, and his son's guardian, John Jones, immediately began plans to remodel.

Period II (1730)

A massive overhaul of the house was undertaken in 1730. Trees that had finished the 1729 growing season, but had not sprouted in 1730, were felled to rework and enlarge the plan of the earlier house. Dendrochronologist Herman Heikkenen's discoveries suggest further that these felled trees were worked shortly after they were cut down, probably during the summer of 1730 (Heikkenen 1984, 1986). Essentially, the frame exterior walls were rebuilt in brick, a porch tower was added on the front, and a lean-to shed was constructed on the rear (Figure 34). Only the two chimneys and the roof, from the plates up, were salvaged from the previous house.

If Jones's house was indeed relatively new when his kitchen was erected in 1727, it is quite telling that he chose to construct a cooking-scale fireplace in his hall. The large opening of the fireplace became obsolete once the kitchen was constructed, and its size was reduced during the 1730 alterations. The evidence presented by the fireplace and the manner in which the original house was framed leads one to consider the following scenario.

Shortly before 1727, Matthew Jones constructs a frame (and probably earthfast) house with a large cooking fireplace in the hall, presumably with the intention of soon building a detached kitchen and bricking in the walls. In 1727 he builds the kitchen, but dies in 1728 before completely transforming the house. The house is willed to his son, Scervant Jones, whose guardian, John Jones, immediately completes the overhaul of the dwelling. Trees are felled in the winter of 1729 in preparation for the construction phase the

following summer. John follows Matthew's plan to the extent that he bricks in the original walls and reduces the size of the hall fireplace, but is more avant-garde in his approach to living and entertainment. Thus he adds a porch tower to control circulation to the new hall and dining room, spaces that have now excluded servants and common folk as routine occupants. The bedroom is placed in a newly constructed shed, demonstrating that dining (and therefore formal) activities were left in the main block in the previous chamber.

Cary Carson et. al., in their ground-breaking work on impermanent architecture in the South, observe that many colonists constructed structures they considered inferior to what they expected to build later (Carson 1981:140-141). Although Jones's first house was not mean, it was not of the quality to which he ultimately aspired. A brick building meant that instead of possessing a frame house like the vast majority of Virginians, he could attain what few had and give a sense of permanence to his environment. Whether it was the lack of capital or time that caused him to phase the construction, this pattern of building and rebuilding in stages to eventually acquire one's desired plans has repeated itself throughout Virginia in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.¹

The overhauling of the house permitted the salvage of the original chimneys, the end attic joists, and all of the roof framing from the plates upward. As it appears, the lower frame of the house was removed as the new walls were carried up. Once to the level of the plate, the old frame was left intact.

The chimneys originally protruded 4½ in. beyond the inside face of the two end joists. In the remodeling, the new walls were set flush with the chimney face, and a more conventional relationship was achieved. It is conceivable, then, that Jones built his frame house with the "protruding" chimneys anticipating the later bricking.

Two parallel vertical scars with a 5-in. spacing on the interior of the front wall indicate that the position of the partition between the two first-floor rooms had moved very little (Figure 35). Associated with the ghost marks are the remains of plaster from the partition. Opposite this scar on the rear wall plate is a second scar, again indicating the partition location. Within the scar on the plate are several rosehead nails, obviously used to tie the partition to the plate.



Figure 28. Matthew Jones House, hall fireplace with two generations of infill.



Figure 29. Matthew Jones House, chamber fireplace. New cheeks were added to both sides of the firebox probably in the late nineteenth century.

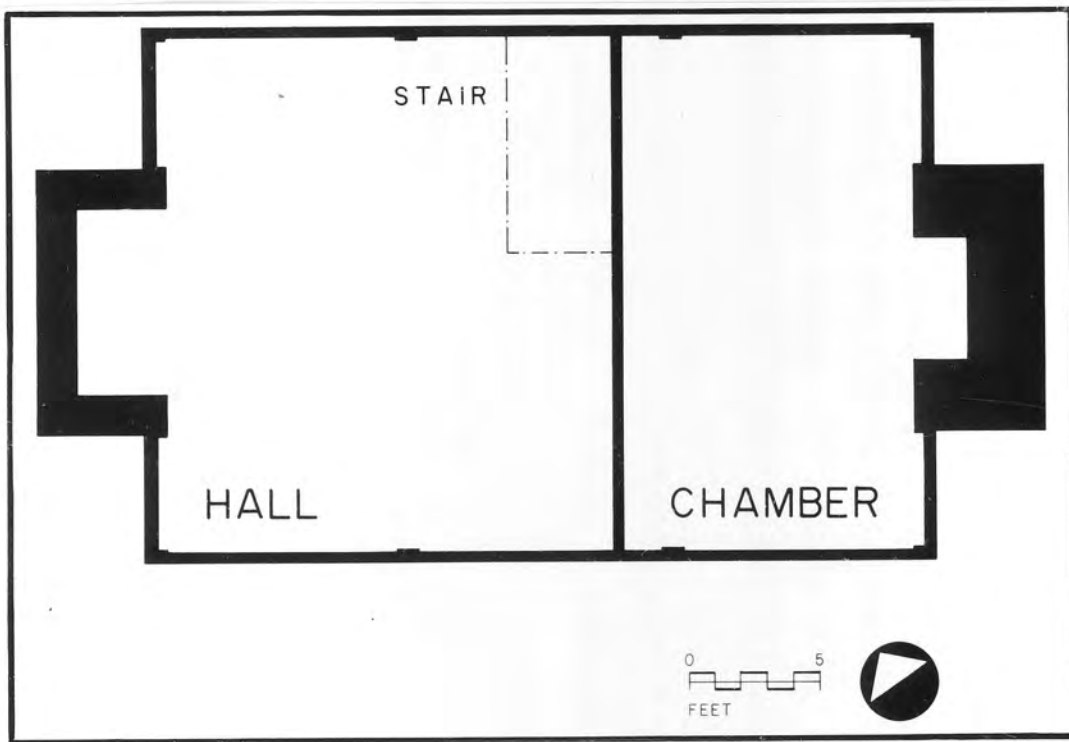


Figure 30. Matthew Jones House, first-floor plan of house in its original form.

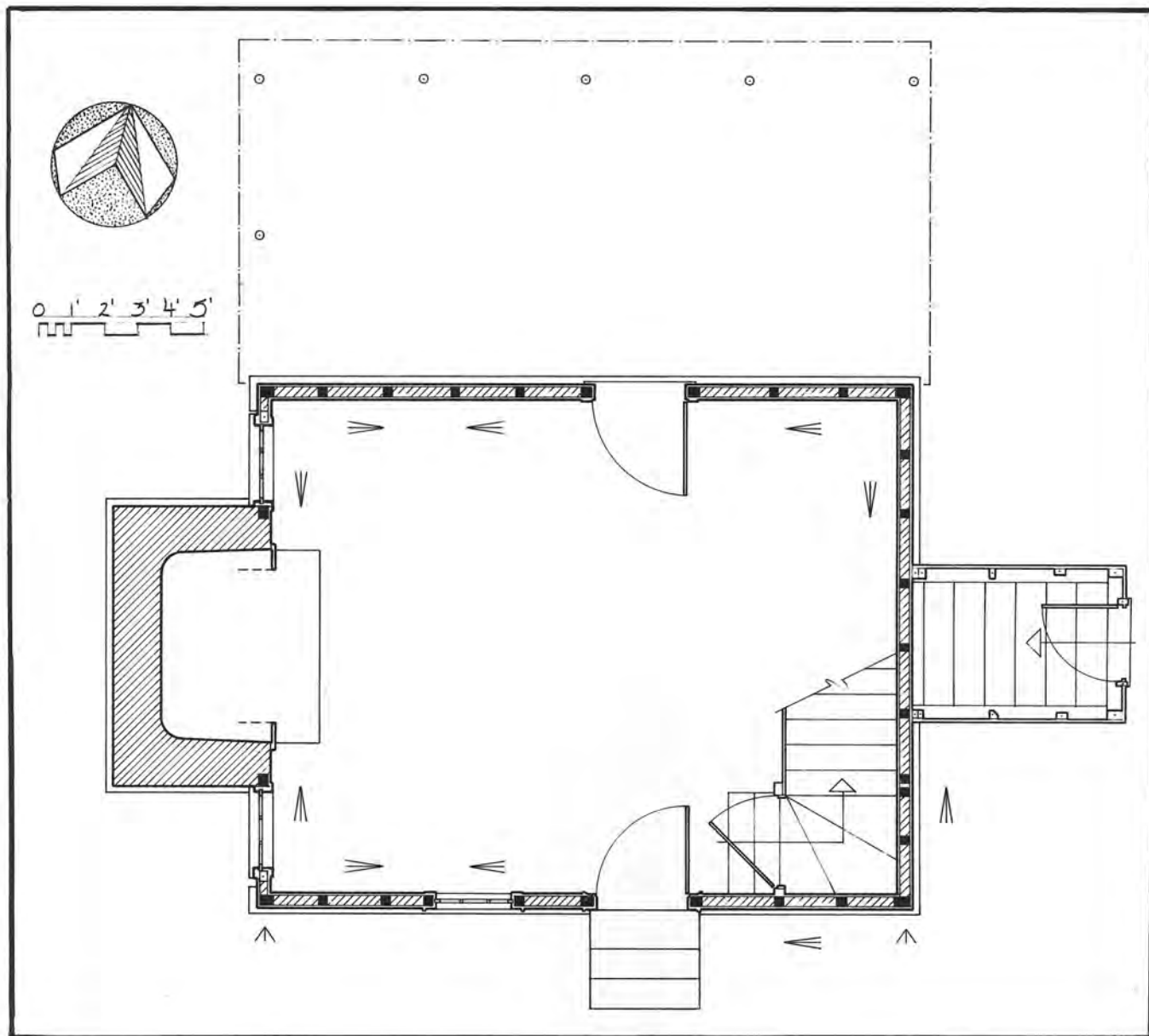


Figure 31. Rochester House, first-floor plan. Delineator: Willie Graham, Colonial Williamsburg.

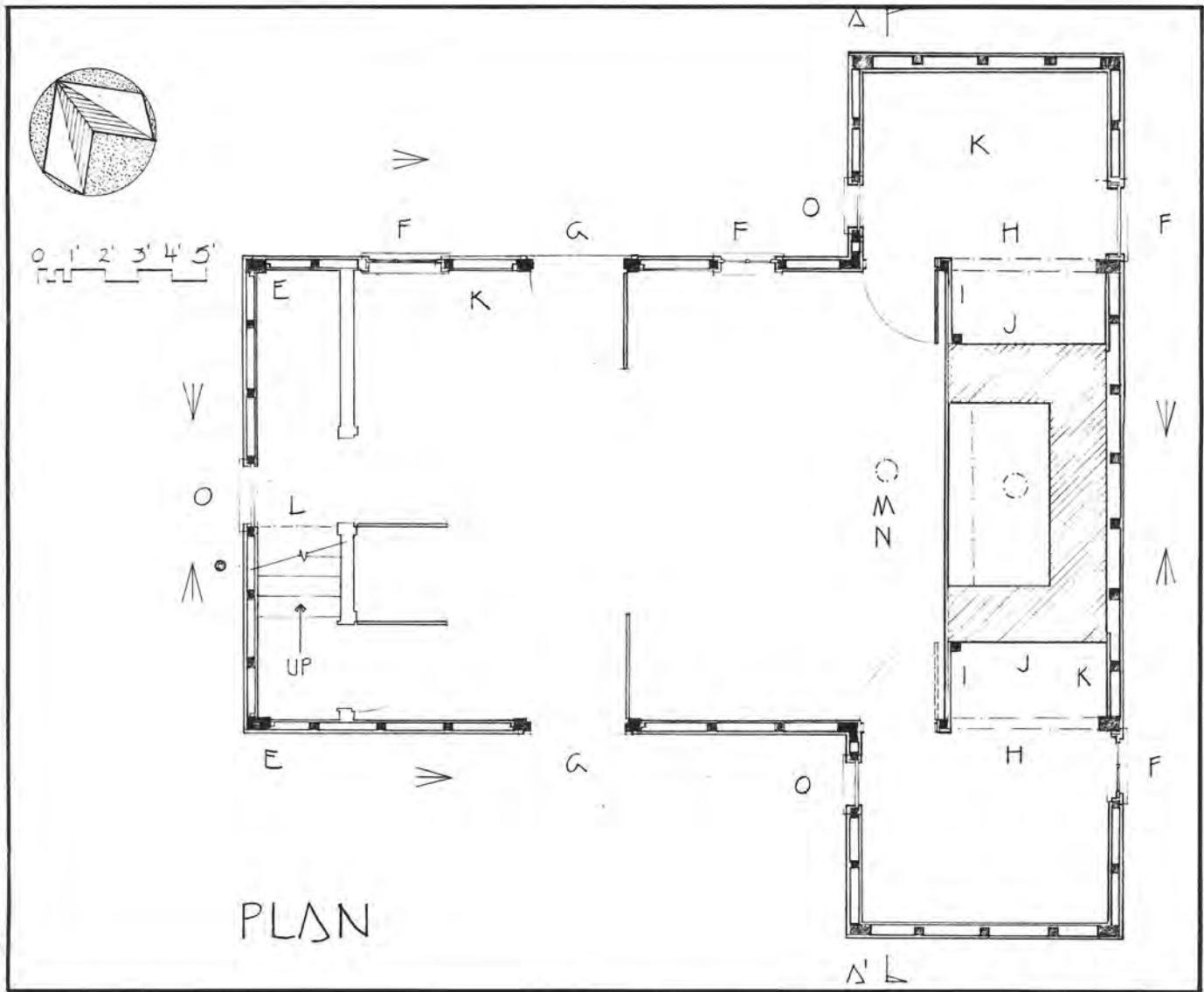


Figure 32. Fairfield, first-floor plan. Delineator: William MacIntire, Colonial Williamsburg.



Figure 33. Pear Valley, hall fireplace, originally with an opening nearly 8 ft. wide, was dramatically reduced in size later in the eighteenth century. This example parallels the reduction in scale of the Matthew Jones hall fireplace. (Photo credit: Willie Graham, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.)

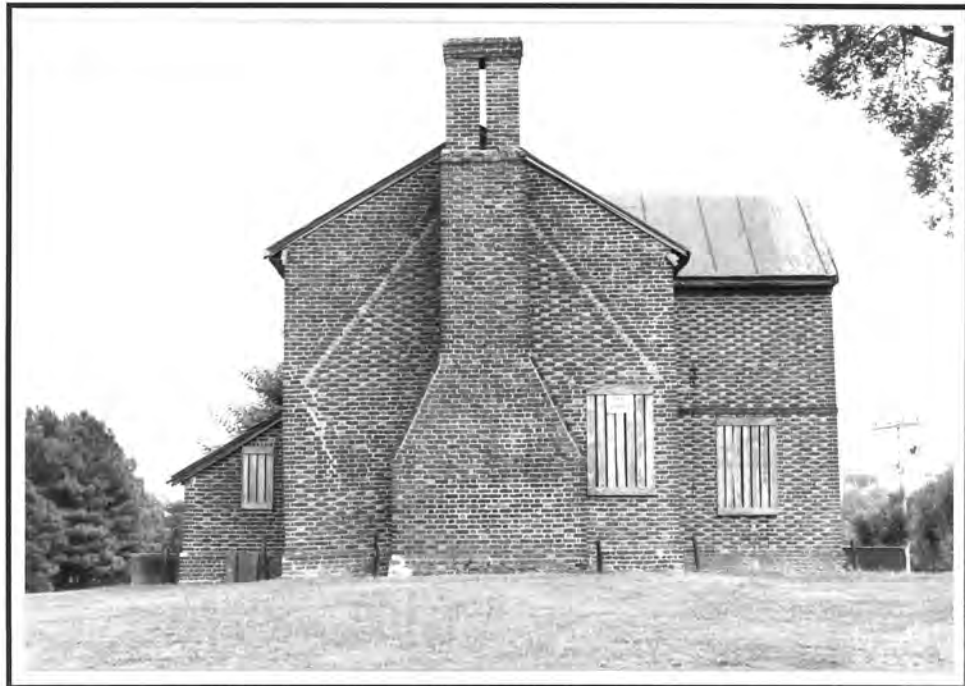


Figure 34. Matthew Jones House, west gable showing original chimney, 1730 brick walls, porch tower, and rear shed. The main block of the house was raised to two stories and the chimney stack extended in 1893.

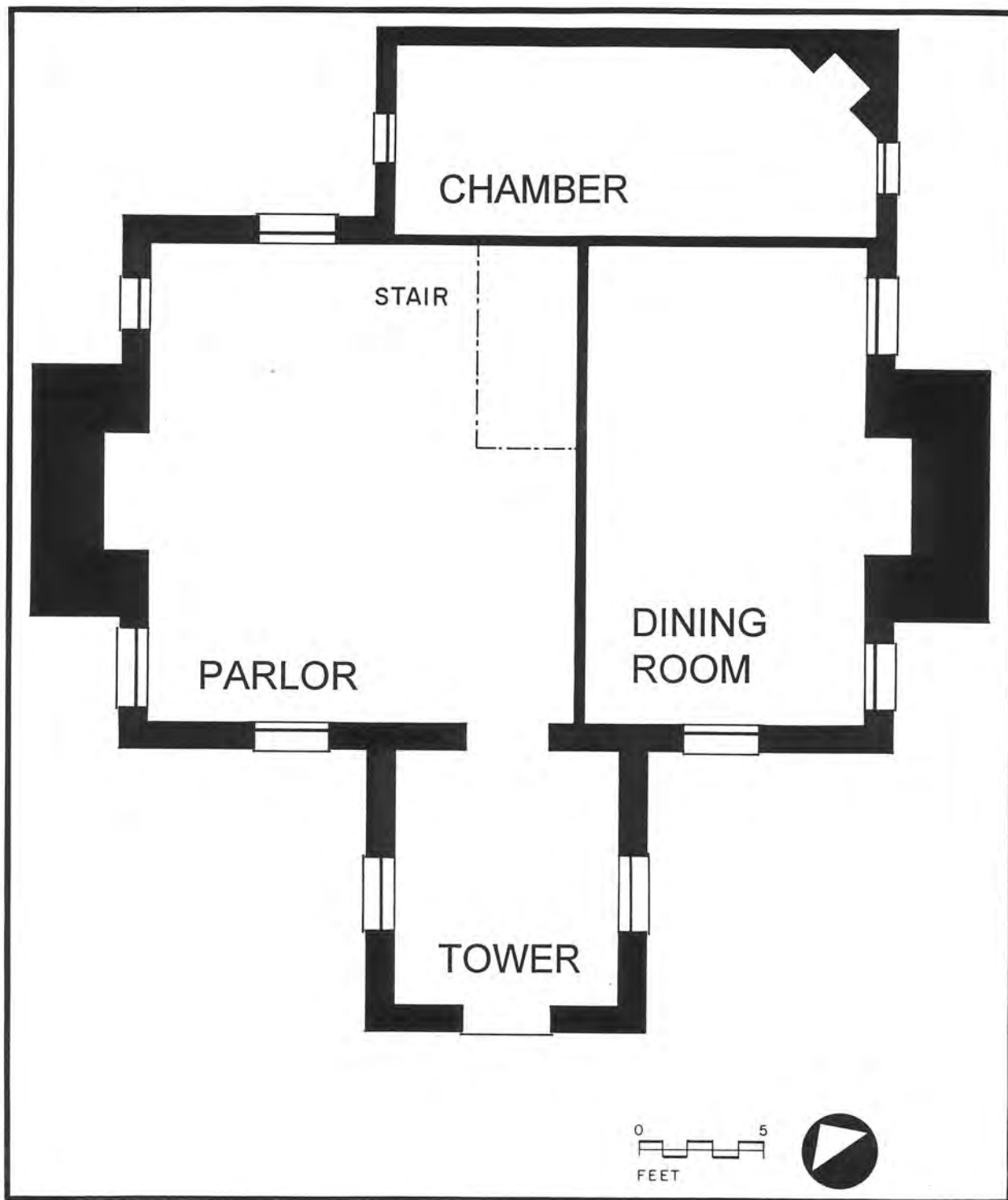


Figure 35. Matthew Jones House, first-floor plan in its Period II (1730) form.

In the earlier plan, most of the social and work activities took place in the hall. When the dwelling was rebuilt in 1730, the changes occurring in society were reflected in the new plan. An exterior kitchen had been built to expel the servants and work activities from the house. The hall (or maybe more appropriately called the "parlor") was limited to entertainment functions and was to be used to reflect the owner's status and social ambitions. It could not be cluttered with both work and entertaining paraphernalia. Thus the fireplace was reduced to give domestic scale to the space, and the trim was dressed up to formalize the room.

As planters became increasingly concerned about their perceived status, dining took on more importance. Slaves and indentured servants were forced to eat separate from the family and specialized utensils were purchased to enhance the "polite" nature of the meal and elevate the master's standing in the community. As a first step in the direction of adding a third room to the main floor of gentry houses, many planters simply moved the genteel dining from the hall to the principal chamber. At the Matthew Jones House, the chamber was enlarged slightly to serve as the new dining room or possibly as a larger principal chamber that also accommodated dining on social occasions (Wenger 1989).

The inclusion of a rear shed during Period II provided the third necessary space for gentry living during the second quarter of the eighteenth century (Figure 36). A fireplace was included, one that was supported by corbeled bricks from the corner of the foundation walls immediately below the floor (Figure 37). The shed provided space for a new chamber since the sleeping functions had been largely, if not completely, eliminated from the new dining room. Interestingly, the chamber was so reduced in importance as to be inferior even to those in the attic story. Since all of the entertaining functions that the old chamber served would have been moved into the new dining room, this may have been quite an acceptable solution. The chamber does not have the relative pretensions found in many other three-room-plan houses and does not allow for a large bed with hangings. This arrangement illustrates the evolutionary process that the Virginia house underwent and describes an early, unmaturing version of the three-room plan.

Enough information survives in the shed to allow a close glimpse into how it first appeared when built in 1730. The inside dimensions of the room measure 7 ft.

8 in. × 19 ft. 5 in. The room contains a small window to the west and an interior corner fireplace and window at the opposite end. The date of the chimney is not certain, but the use of white shell mortar and glazed bricks suggests an early date, probably 1730, as does the offset nature of the east window. The small triangles between the outside edges of the chimney and the brick walls were later infilled with salmon brick and lime mortar (without shell). The original opening was 2 ft. 2 in. wide and 2 ft. 10 in. tall, but was blocked when a stove was added to the room, presumably in 1893. The stack, now missing, is clearly delineated in the 1940 HABS drawings of the house (Figure 38).

The floor joists, hewn and pit sawn of oak, measure 4 × 8 in. and lap over two sills: one set in the outside wall and a second set over the interior cellar partition. The joists and sills were dated to 1729 using dendrochronology and are most likely in their original location. Heikkinen's observations indicate that the original floorboards were 8–10 in. wide. (Heikkinen 1984:19)

The brick walls are laid in English bond on the interior, except for the rear wall that uses Flemish bond brickwork. The original wall between the shed and main block was partially dismantled during the Period II renovations. The plate survived, but the post and studs were replaced, probably to rid the house of its interrupted sills. The wall was then plastered. The lack of ghost marks for plaster on the plate suggests that it was hidden by collars attached to the shed rafters.

All of the shed rafters were replaced in 1893, yet the shed plate still survives. Measuring 9½ in. wide × 5½ in. tall, it is hewn on all visible sides and contains a scarf joint along its length. This joint is divided evenly among the two pieces and the verticals are set on a slight angle. The head height in this room was only 5 ft. at the rear wall, requiring that the slope of the roof be used for the ceiling.

Heikkinen has suggested that the present floor framing in the shed consists of reused Period I joists from the main block installed here in the nineteenth century. However, the date of the joists was determined from dendrochronology to be 1729 (Period II). Because the shed itself is of a similar date, it is worth questioning whether the joists have been moved around. We do know that the first-floor joists were replaced in Period II. Heikkinen notes that the longest of the shed



Figure 36. *Matthew Jones House, corner fireplace in shed.*

joists was notched for placement in a sill in a prior location. Unless this joint was cut out during his sampling of the timber, all extant joints appear to join the sills to which they presently relate. Heikkenen also discovered a paired nail pattern and an occasional drilled hole on the top surface of the joists indicating the presence of floorboards below the present modern ones. Knowing that the shed initially had a wood floor, this is not surprising. The sill under the partition between dining room and shed was dated to 1729 using dendrochronology, yet it is a reused, first-floor joist. Thus either the shed joists are in their original locations with merely a new internal sill to carry them, or more likely, the joists once spanned the full width of the house and were cut short in 1893.

The last major change to the house that took place in 1730 was the addition of the porch tower (Figure 39). A center passage would have been more stylish, but given the size of the old house, its insertion within the existing plan would have severely compromised the size of the hall and new dining room. The tower provided a buffered entry and restrained circulation to the entertaining rooms. In general, removing the service activities from the house was paralleled by an interest in controlling who entered its depths and when.

The center passage, developed from the porch tower, was commonplace by the second quarter of the century, but here the tower served quite well, even if a bit out of date stylistically.

An added benefit of the tower was the creation of an additional attic-level room, often called the “porch chamber” in probate inventories. This room could have served either as a bedroom (possibly for servants) or, because it had no ceiling, as a storage area. The new plan, then, provided for an entertaining parlor, a dining room that possibly was also used as a sleeping chamber, a chamber in the shed, a circulation space, and a small attic-floor chamber or storage room, in addition to the two surviving chambers unaltered from the first house.

Several pieces of evidence demonstrate that the tower and shed are both original to Period II. The walls of both units are bonded into the masonry of the main block. The jointing used in the brick walls is also important. Relatively white mortar with moderate chunks of shell and lime was used on the exterior during this phase, along with a grapevine joint. However, the interior mortar is more of a buff color—largely due to less lime in the recipe. This was



Figure 37. Matthew Jones House, corbeled base for shed chimney.

a common practice to reduce the cost of building materials.² Additionally, the interior was crudely struck with an undercut joint, executed freehand. The bond is much more irregular on the interior and tends towards English rather than Flemish bond. Within the tower, all four walls are treated in this manner. In other words, what would have been the exterior face of the main block of the house at the center, but enclosed by the porch tower, had been treated like other interior brickwork. This confirms a unified date for the bricking of the main block and addition of the tower.

The tower is a two-story masonry structure with a single front window on the upper story and two side windows and a front door on the main floor. The connection of the tower to the roof of the one-story main block is uncertain. Removing the 1893 framing hiding the juncture between the 1730 and 1893 brickwork will allow study of the manner in which the second floor of the tower is connected to the main roof. Two scenarios are possible. First, every other row of bricks in the second story of the tower starting at the north end would begin with a 5½-in. make-up brick and continue with a header brick, stretcher brick, and so on, to complete a Flemish bond pattern. The triangular space between the main roof and tower would be of frame construction in this case. If, however, a full stretcher was used instead of the 5½-in. brick, the wall must have carried over the plate and the triangular infill over the main roof must have been brick. The final determination awaits further investigation.

Supplemental to our deduction from architectural clues that the tower is a Period II feature is the evidence presented by two dendrochronology studies commissioned of the American Institute of Dendrochronology in 1984 and 1986. (Heikkenen 1984, 1986). Using the key-year technique developed by Herman J. Heikkenen, the year of best fit for the tower was determined to be the end of the growing season of 1729. The same date was derived for the joists in the shed (see discussion of these framing members under the analysis of the dendrochronology reports). The absence of insect and fungi damage associated with dead oak trees (when left on the stump for as little as one year) has caused Heikkenen to speculate that these trees were squared and used shortly after felling.

Unlike the ceiling of the two principal rooms, that in the porch tower, at least on the first floor, was plastered. The joists were hewn and pit sawn, but not

hand planed or molded. Moreover, the earliest lath nails discovered in the lower set of joists are of wrought iron. Similar nails were not found in the upper set of joists. At least two generations of lath have been on this later ceiling, but the nails all appear to have been of the machine-cut variety. The lack of an original finish may suggest that the second-floor room was used for storage.

The first- and second-floor joists of the tower are lapped over a plate set in the wall. Under the lower joists, a crawl space provided ventilation. Original holes left in the brick walls sufficed for this purpose, although they are now blocked. The wall of the second floor is set back such that the joists do not penetrate the brickwork. In the attic, the joists sit on the brick wall and carry a flat false plate. This member was replaced in 1893. The rafters sit on the false plate and are tenoned and pegged at the ridge. No collars were used. All of the Period II framing within the tower is hewn and pit sawn.

The Period II brickwork is beautifully executed and has survived well over the years. The water table is laid in English bond with random glazing, while the walls above were erected in Flemish bond using all glazed headers (see Figure 27). This includes a glazed-header course just below the bargeboards on all three gables. Bright red rubbed bricks were used on all exterior corners above the water table, including the shed. Only the windows on the porch tower, the two windows on the front facade of the main block, the two windows on the east gable, and the front door have rubbed brick jambs and arches. The semicircular arch over the front door was rebuilt in this century, following the original curve. The jack arches over the front windows have gauged and rubbed bricks laid with narrow, bright white joints. None of the arches on the rear wall or shed are currently visible. A belt course of gauged and rubbed bricks was used on the tower, the only two-story section of the house until the late nineteenth century.

To the rear of the west chimney on the gable wall is a window opening blocked early in the life of the house. The window was clearly 1 ft. 11½ in. wide × 2 ft. 10 in. tall and was therefore considerably more narrow than all of its contemporary first-floor openings, including those in the shed. The latter brick opening measures 1 ft. 11 in. wide × 4 ft. tall. In the opening of this window on the outside of the house, brick has been infilled that is distinctive from that which

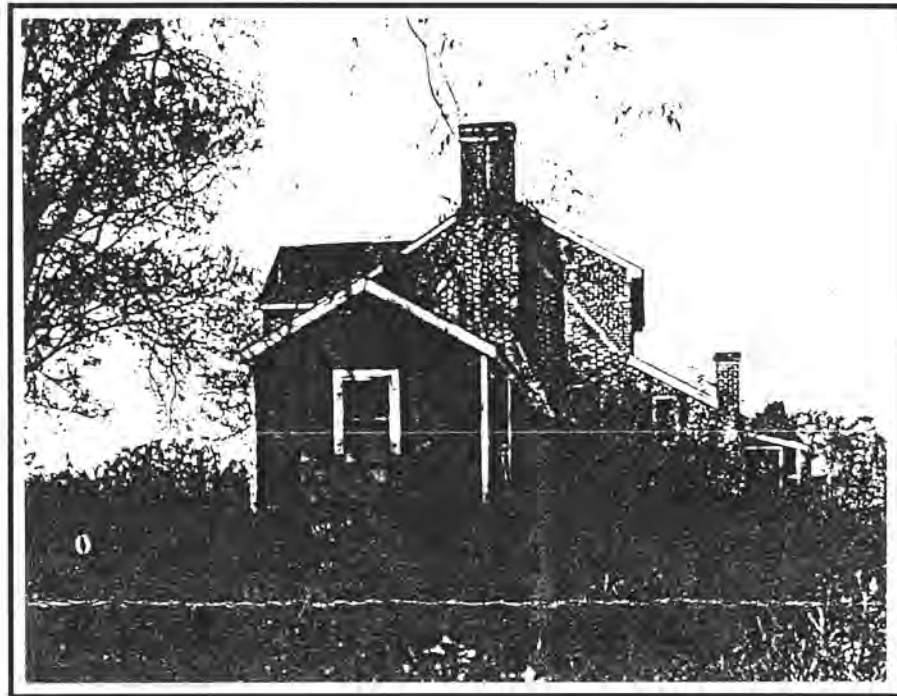


Figure 38. Matthew Jones House, ca. 1934–1935 HABS photo showing stack of shed chimney. Note also the frame addition in the foreground. (Photo credit: Albert S. Burns, HABS.)

surrounds it. The brick has less glazing, is more bright red in color, and its mortar is light buff instead of white when compared to the adjoining material. However, the texture and amount of shell in the two are similar. What is puzzling with the exterior side of the patch is that it is not rectangular, but rather amorphous in shape. Given the exterior evidence alone, the window would appear to be even smaller than the noted dimensions, or the patch may simply represent a repair of a decayed portion of the wall.

On the interior, the patch is more sharply defined (Figure 40). Over the window, the brick head was formed by a rowlock course. The sides are quite distinct. Not only are the infill bricks of a different character, but a vertical joint separates the two. However, there is no distinction in the color of the two adjoining mortar joints. The chair rail ran immediately below this opening, but once the window was removed, the chair rail seems to have disappeared as well. The hole in the wall for the chair rail blocking was infilled with the same bright red brick used to close the window opening.

It is plausible, in spite of conflicting evidence, that a small window adjoined the hall chimney in Period II (its jambs are not cut in) and was infilled sometime during the next 100 years, sufficiently long before the 1893 alterations to the house. The chair rail was abandoned in the hall at that time, but what replaced it is uncertain.

As to interior alterations in Period II, the walls, now of brick, were again plastered; the first-floor ceiling joists were left exposed; and the hall fireplace was reduced in size. The new opening measured 4 ft. 7 in. wide \times 2 ft. 4 in. deep and included a segmental arch. A wood plate set into the chimney wall during this phase is hewn, and the adjoining mortar used in the brickwork is similar to other work of this period.

Three feet three inches above the present floor (to center) are small pockets that were used for chair rail blocking. These do not occur in the chamber nor in the shed, and thus suggest a hierarchy used in the trim throughout the house. A ghost mark on the inside of the brick jambs to the front hall door illustrates that the

openings were trimmed with architraves or bolection moldings. This particular one measured 4½ in. from the brick jamb. Otherwise, no eighteenth-century finish remains to be examined.

Access to the cellar is through a modern bulkhead on the center of the rear of the shed. The present door opening aligns with that in the interior brick partition wall. Seemingly this is the location of the Period II cellar opening. The cellar is divided into two rooms. One is located under the shed; the other extends under the original chamber and halfway under the hall. With little headroom, it is doubtful that the cellars served any purpose other than storage. Excavations undertaken for the purpose of this report revealed that the perimeter brick cellar walls, clearly of a Period II date, sit directly on undisturbed clay. The interior wall that supports the sill between the dining room and shed rests on a thin layer of loam. Otherwise, no early fill could be found under this portion of the building.

In Period II, then, John Jones undertook a heavy remodeling of the house, in part to complete what was envisioned for the site by Matthew Jones and in part to cure his desire for a structure of modern complexity. The work was underway at the end of 1729 and included bricking in the exterior walls, remodeling the interior, and building a shed on the rear and a porch tower on the front. A cellar was created under the eastern two-thirds of the structure, oddly not directly under either first-floor room. The location of the internal cellar wall (under the hall) would have allowed for a cellar stair directly below that to the upper floor.

Within his new plan, Jones created an entertaining room or parlor out of the old hall, made a dining room out of the original chamber, used the shed as a chamber, and controlled circulation to the various spaces by the new tower. Due to the renovations, the resulting plan was slightly odd in appearance, yet it functioned fully as a three-room dwelling, the standard gentry spatial organization for Chesapeake houses during the period. With its impressive brickwork, rubbed-brick detailing, and three-room layout, the Matthew Jones House was transformed into a dwelling fit for the top level of society of this period. It is surprisingly similar in general appearance to contemporary dwellings such as the Keeling House (ca. 1725) and Lynnhaven, both in Virginia Beach, and the Mason House on the Eastern Shore (Figure 41).

Period III (1893) and Later

In 1893, the house was substantially remodeled to include a full second floor, all new door and window trim, and a completely finished interior. A frame addition that has since been demolished was constructed some time within the next 30 years.

The date of Period III can be collaborated in three ways. First, a physical investigation of the house reveals that the changes occurred late in the nineteenth or early in the twentieth century. All of the framing used in these modifications is circular-sawn, dimensional lumber and is secured with machine-cut nails. The trim also utilizes cut nails and has been surfaced on a machine planer. The backbands on the interior of the windows are late Italianate in design, and the sash are two-over-two (Figure 42). Beaded matchboard sheathing has been used for the baseboards and the stair enclosure. Stock, four-panel, late Victorian doors replaced the originals. Combined, these details suggest that Period III occurred sometime around 1900.

Second, the historical research undertaken by Dorothy Ellesin and Calder Loth for a National Register of Historic Places nomination indicates that the changes occurred in 1893 (Ellesin and Loth 1968). In that year, the early kitchen was demolished, and reportedly the salvaged bricks were reused to create the upper floor of the house. The bricks used in the remodeling are of an early character; not only are they handmade, but they include a fair amount of glazing.

Third and most telling are the results of the dendrochronology study. The year of best fit for the rafters is 1892 and confirms the historical date of 1893 suggested in Ellesin and Loth's study.

In its Period III form, the plan was again modified (see HABS drawings dated 1940) (see Figures 2-8). The tower entrance was retained, but a small lobby was created beyond. From the lobby one could enter a living room, or dining room, or go directly upstairs. A door was cut in the east wall, either during Period III or shortly afterward, south of the chimney in a 1730 window location. Eventually, it led to a frame addition that existed when the Historic American Buildings Survey photographs were taken, probably in the 1930s,



Figure 39. Matthew Jones House, porch tower added in 1730. Arch over door was rebuilt after 1940, but following the original configuration.



Figure 40. Matthew Jones House, detail of blocked window on west gable.

but has since been demolished (Figure 43). The date of the addition is not known, but can be no earlier than 1893 and probably no later than the 1910s, when the site was acquired by the federal government.

The Period III alterations were so extensive that in the main block the joists on both floors, the partition framing, and the wall between the old dining room and shed were replaced. The roof of the shed was largely rebuilt and all but two rafter pairs of the tower were replaced. Fortunately, the joists on all three levels of the tower remain intact. The joists that appeared to have run through the dining room into the shed were cut back such that only the shed portion survives. A reused joist was laid over a newly built internal foundation in the cellar to carry these joists. All of the remaining first-floor framing was replaced. In the attic, two other 1730 joists were reused to carry the rafters on the north and help tie the tower to the new second floor of the main block.

The foundation in the cellar underneath the framing between the shed and the main block was also part of the Period III renovations. The wall is made largely of bats set in a wide bed of mortar with a flat joint (Figure 44). The mortar contains large chunks of shell and lime. Though the mortar is characteristic of early nineteenth-century work, evidence here points to the construction of the wall in 1893.

This foundation is necessary to carry the floor joists in the main block and eastern side, and those of the shed. The sill on top appears to date to the same period as the brick wall beneath it. The year the sill was cut from the forest was dated to 1729 (Heikkenen 1984), but it is not in its original location. Paired nail holes on its side indicate where floorboards once were secured to this member. Likely it originally served as one of the Period II, first-floor joists. During the 1893 alterations, the joists in the main block were replaced. Those in the east room may have continued uninterrupted into the shed until cut off during these changes. That would have necessitated the addition of a sill to carry them and, in turn, foundations to support the sill.

When raising the exterior walls to two stories, the new brickwork was laid in seven-course American bond. The 1730 all-glazed-header, Flemish bond brickwork is still quite evident below the strikingly different 1893 work (see Figure 34). Equally as odd to the gable elevations is the manner in which the original chimney stacks were lengthened. The old stubby stacks, complete with what seems to be their original caps, were lengthened by adding twin stacks on top of each chimney.

To complete the remodeling, matching mantels were used on the first floor. Plain wood mantels with flat pilasters and a wide, undecorated frieze were chosen for these two spaces. The fireplaces were lined with new brick. Simple beaded casings surround the doors and windows with a backband added to the latter for effect (Figures 45 and 46). In all, the 1893 modifications were quite extensive but of an inferior quality.

In the new attic joist framing, an ell-shaped opening was created for a stair to the attic. The opening was covered with wallboard during the 1930 remodeling. Ledgers from this latter phase were nailed around the perimeter of the opening, obscuring any evidence that would indicate whether a stair ever rose from the second floor through this hole. However, the lack of headroom and the absence of floorboards in the 1893-created attic (above the second floor) suggest that a stair would have had little use. Most likely a stair was contemplated, and the realization of insufficient headroom caused its abandonment. At any rate, by the time of the 1940 HABS drawings, the stair was not to be found.

About 1930, the house was again remodeled. The plaster was replaced with sheetrock, but instead of taped joints, thin wood battens hid the gaps. Graffiti dating from 1937 to 1940 covers the drywall. A concrete bulkhead was built to replace an earlier service entrance to the cellar.



Figure 41. Mason House, exterior. (Photo credit: Willie Graham, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.)



Figure 42. Matthew Jones House, interior view of hall window, remodeled in 1893.

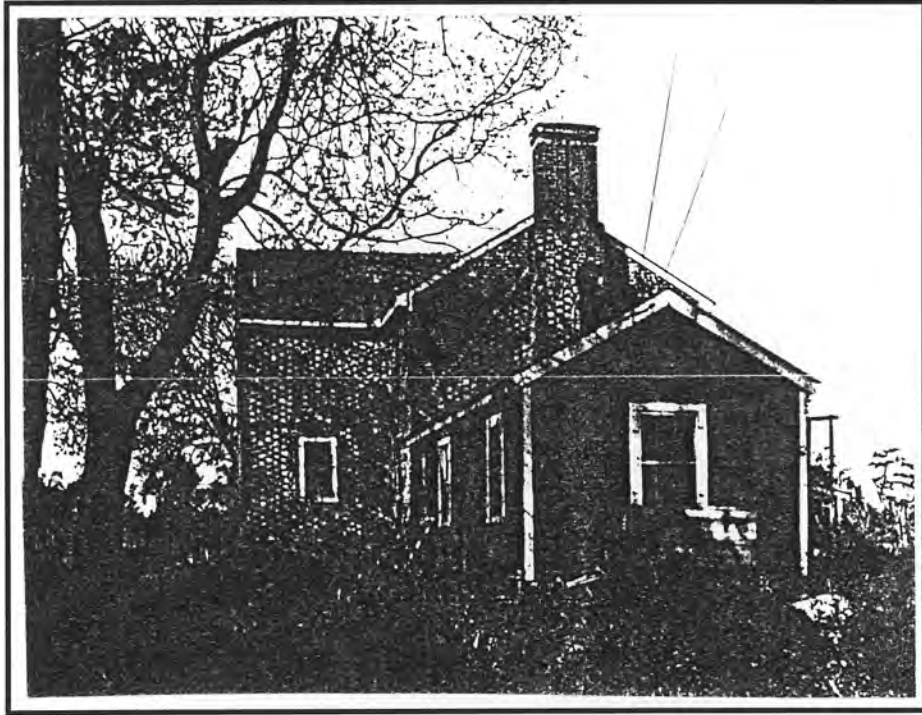


Figure 43. Matthew Jones House, 1930s photograph showing an early twentieth-century frame addition protruding from the east gable. (Photo credit: Albert S. Burns, HABS.)



Figure 44. Matthew Jones House, foundation wall built under wall between the shed and main block of the house. This feature was added in 1893, likely when the floor joists were cut and new ones installed in the main block.



Figure 45. Matthew Jones House, 1893 mantel from first-floor west room.



Figure 46. Matthew Jones House, 1893 mantel from second-floor west room.

NOTES

Chapter 4 - Architectural Analysis

1. One surviving example is the Devereux Jarrat Manly site in Petersburg. Manly purchased a lot on Old Street (presently known as Grove Avenue) in 1791. Soon after, he built a 1½ story frame dwelling set over a raised cellar. In 1797, the year of Manly's death, he took out an insurance policy on his house, coachmaker's shop, woodwork shop, and a "new wooden kitchen" (Mutual Assurance Society Policy 1797: R1 V10 No. 93). The policy further states that the kitchen in the cellar of the main house is no longer used. From what is known of Manly, it appears that he used all of his resources to build the house and work buildings, and once he recovered financially, he completed his goal by building a detached kitchen, abandoning the original in the cellar.
2. For instance, at Battersea, the ca. 1770 home of Col. John Banister in Petersburg, the outside of the brick walls are laid in a fashionable white mortar, while a cheaper brown clay mortar was used on the interior where the walls were not visible to the public. The same is true for the late eighteenth-century structure known as the Catherine Whitehead House in Southampton County, Virginia.

CHAPTER 5: Structural Analysis

Introduction

The Matthew Jones House is located on high ground with good drainage in all directions. This condition is conducive to good foundations in this area of Virginia. At the present time, a sewage treatment facility is located adjacent to the property. No settlement has resulted from any grading that may have occurred during the construction of the treatment plant and none is anticipated.

The house is in excellent condition on the exterior. The brick and mortar are well preserved. Some minor cracking is present, and one wall is delaminating in a small area. The wood floors are poor in the main house and fair to good in the tower area.

The general method of correcting the deficiencies for the potential uses of this house are given below. Specific detailed working drawings would have to be developed at a future time when the appropriate development plans for the house have been defined.

Condition of Structural Elements

Original Framing Members

The surviving original joist on the east is sound enough to remain in place. The member on the north side of the west wall is in sound condition except for the end south of the chimney. The northern half should be preserved in place. The south member is totally deteriorated. Perhaps fragments of the existing member can be preserved in epoxy or other firm preservative and be left in the wall. The adjacent space created by the decayed wood at the second-floor level must be filled with wood or masonry.

Shed Wall Common to Main House

The wall between the main house and the shed above the second floor is supported on a wood beam and wood studs. This wall was wood framed with openings and was never infilled with brick at the first-floor level. A conclusive point is that the beam that

supports the brick on the second floor over the shed portion is skewed. It begins flush with the inside of the brick on the west side of the room where the shed terminates and then progressively skews toward the north until it is approximately 2 in. from the face of the brick.

Foundations

The foundation of this structure is in excellent condition considering its age. The brick walls in the basement under the wall between the main house and shed have settled and rotated from the exterior walls. These two walls should not be given more load before underpinning the footings. A header course forms the first row. Recent archaeology has demonstrated that the wall has no footings. It is not reasonable to disturb the other footings to examine them. The opinion on the foundation is based upon the behavior of the walls and chimneys, which usually is an excellent indicator.

The foundation of the interior portion of the fireplace has collapsed and needs to be repaired. This must be done immediately if the chimney is to be saved (Figure 47).

The exterior masonry above the window on the west side has developed a diagonal crack from the head of the window going up and toward the front of the house. This type of crack is usually generated by the expansion of the wood framing on the inside causing the brick to push out.

It was observed that the wall between the tower and the corner just described has some bulging below the second-floor window and above the head of the first. Anchorage should be added at these positions. This is in addition to the rear wall repair.

Significant differential settlement in the masonry was not observed in any portion of the house except the infilled brick walls in the cellar. Some cracks are occurring, but they are of a different origin.



Figure 47. Matthew Jones House, detail showing deterioration in west fireplace.

Cellar Walls

The east cellar wall, built of brick, is located directly below the east wall of the house. The west wall is under the hall, but not directly below any partition.

The cellar walls are in good structural condition considering their age. The masonry wall that was added under the opening to the shed has settled somewhat. The foundation under this wall is not in as good of condition as the other foundation walls. As part of this study, archaeologists discovered loam below the footing. Poor construction is likely the reason for this condition. The quality of the foundations in the remainder of the house is much better, except for the infill of the west fireplace. That also was poorly constructed and has collapsed.

Chimneys and Walls

The chimneys are in good structural condition, with the exception of a few cracks probably caused by freeze-thaw and temperature and moisture expansion from the wood framing in the house. There are some horizontal movement cracks. These can be pointed up carefully with a mortar matching the original.

The masonry joints are in excellent condition for a structure of this age. There are cracks in most of the masonry walls. These are minor and can be pointed up; none seem to be serious. Most are generated by the expansion of the wood framing on the interior, but the freeze-thaw cycle also contributes to the growth of the cracks. When there is no force to pull the masonry back, this problem continues to worsen. Some of the brick in the area of the east gable door needs to be pointed. Several of tile shoulder bricks are loose and will need to be reattached.

The shed chimney stack was removed sometime after 1940. The brick on the exterior of the shed has been reworked.

The wall is delaminating on the rear of the building, between the shed and the west gable wall. In a spot above the water table, extending up through a portion of the second floor, the masonry wall has bulged out 2-3 in. The interior of the wall has moved out slightly but does not match the movement of the exterior. This indicates that there is physical delamination between the widths of brick. The usual cause of this is water entering on an upper level, freezing and expanding the brick. Here, it occurs partially under the second-floor

window and through the first-floor window down toward the water table. A crack in the water table is related. On the second floor, the interior brick is rotating immediately above the floor. This indicates a serious failure of the wood in the wall at the second-floor line. Repair is required very soon.

The methods of correcting the problem fall into two categories. The wall could be taken down from the outside or the inside and replaced with proper bonding between the widths of brick. This is not acceptable if a feasible alternative can be found. The alternative method here is to drill small holes in the brick or the mortar joints and put anchors that are epoxied into the inner widths of brick. Some of the devices available today provide for screw adjustment within the brick wall, putting tension on the bolt. In some cases, these devices have even moved the wall back.

Here it is recommended that the bolting method be tried. Some investigation can be carried out by removing the trim, the windows, and the covering over the windows. At this point, the separation in the brick jamb and sill will be visible. At the present time, efforts should be made to keep any water from flowing into the sill of the first- and second-floor windows. If there is an open joint at the head of the first-floor window, it too should be closed.

The door and window frames should remain in their present state until the determination is made on how the building will be treated.

Framing in Cellar

The interior of the cellar has temporary wood shoring to support the first floor. Essentially, these are placed on wood mud sills and are at best a temporary device. In some cases, they have already settled a few inches below the member they support. In other cases, they poorly support the first-floor partitions that in turn support the stair above.

Considerable termite damage can be observed on a number of these wood members. It has not been determined if there is active infestation. However, we do know that there is damage to some members. At the same time, these do not sufficiently carry their load and are of minimal historical significance, and need reinforcement.

The cellar has three vents through the wall above grade. These three vents should remain open at all seasons of the year. Maximum air flow directed through this space is advantageous to the wood members in the building.

An oak member measuring $3\frac{3}{4} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ -7 in. wide is set flat over the interior foundation wall. This member serves both as a sill to carry the shed and dining room joists and the frame wall above, and as the lintel over the opening. In turn, the studs on the first story support the brick wall of the rear of the house that begins at the level of the second floor. This member should be retained in place. It is damaged; however, it should be worked into the final structural fabric in a manner that will maintain its character. This sill supported the wood wall below the level of the eaves.

First-Floor Framing

The shed floor joists, dating to 1729, are in much better condition structurally than those in the adjoining room to the south and in the west room (hall). The shed rafters measure 4×7 inches \pm and are spaced on 18- to 25-in. centers. The floorboards are not original to the room, but are in better condition than other flooring on the first floor. The flooring should be reused and remain in place. Any weak spots or defective areas should be repaired or replaced.

The floor by the west wall of the stair has deflected about 3 in. from the weight of the stairs on the framing set over the cellar.

East Room Framing

The floor joists in the east room are a full 2 in. wide \times 10 in. deep. They are spaced $19\frac{1}{2}$ -22 in. on center. The logic behind the spacing is not apparent. These members became inadequate after termite damage and are presently supported by the framing of two rows of wood framing in the basement. These latter members date to 1893, are not adequate to carry a normal loading of the floor, and are not historically significant. Replacement is the recommended solution.

West Room Framing

Most of the west room is located over a very shallow crawl space with the exception of about 2 ft. 9

in. at the east end of the cellar. The crawl space measures 2-8 in. deep. The wood floor in this room has rotted and is of no structural value.

Tower Framing

The first floor in the tower is in moderate condition. The crawl space is inaccessible and is presently unventilated. Some of the floor deck is missing. Any future wood floor that is placed in this area will be subject to the same deterioration as the present. A method will have to be found to ventilate this space. Original vents in the foundations have been blocked and should be reopened. A previous 5-ft.-wide opening under the door of the tower was observed and may be reopened.

The floor in this area will have to be repaired. Most of the flooring may be salvaged from this space.

The ventilators in the cellar have all been covered with wood. These should be removed and screen wire, placed behind rat wire, should be used. Ventilation is essential for the preservation of the wood on the interior. A vent should also be cut into the cellar door. It can be secured by the same insect screen and rat wire for additional security.

Wood Stud Walls

The wood stud walls on the interior of the building consist of first-floor walls parallel to the existing stair. These support the stair framing and carriage. The walls, in turn, are supported by the first-floor joists, which have failed but not collapsed. The frame in this location needs to be reworked.

The wood frame wall between the main block and shed has wood studs supporting the second-floor brick wall. These studs extend from the beam and plate over the space down through the first floor to the wood plate on top of the brick wall between the two cellar areas.

The wood plate at the juncture of the shed has failed in several places. Since it predates 1729, the member should be retained in place. This would require reinforcing it with a fitch plate beam or closely spaced studs for support. The choice of solutions would depend on the use of the two adjoining spaces. The beam would be designed after building use and the live load requirements can be determined.

If the beam is to be left exposed, the reinforcing of the support for the brick wall would have to be raised and bolted through the masonry. All of these details would be developed in a set of working drawings. The weight of the brick wall above would best be carried by two or three posts transferring the load to the brick wall below. This would require a reinforcing beam to be added along the span, allowing the foundation loads to be distributed over more points. Thus there would be less of a tendency to over-stress the area where the opening in the foundation starts and stops. The foundation may have to be underpinned due to previous movements.

The wood studs framing the stair enclosure have termite damage. The studs should be restored. These should simply be doubled by adjacent new members, leaving the old and the new in place. Some of the vertical match-board sheathing within the stair are termite damaged as well. Some of this wood can be preserved by filling with epoxy on the rear side and not disturbing the exterior. This would leave the finish as found.

Second Floor - East Room

The east room floor is weak. These joists extend over the original rear wall plate. A flat timber is set over the top of the floor-joist ends and supports the 1893 brick wall above. These floor joists could be retained. Where damaged, they can be reinforced by the addition of a new wood member or by a steel channel bolted to their sides.

Second Floor - West Room

The west room floor joist are essentially destroyed. These floor joist should be replaced in their entirety.

Second Floor - Tower

This floor has been modified by the addition of toilet facilities in the twentieth century. All of these floor joists should be retained. Additional members should be added to provide necessary strength for the intended loads in this area. The floor is in better condition than the other rooms; however, it may need substantial reinforcement depending upon the live loads the floor is to carry.

Stair Passage

The stair area floor is supported by a combination of two partitions and headers at the ends of the opening between the floor joists. At the present time, this floor appears to be in moderately good condition. When the supporting floor systems at the first floor are reinforced, this level will be stiffened. The stair stringers should be examined in detail and reinforced wherever damaged by termites.

Ceilings Over the Second Floor - Main House

The ceiling collars in the main house have rotted from previous roof leaks. These members should be doubled to provide the triangular shape consisting of roof rafters and the ceiling collars. This will provide a stable structure for this area. Some of the ceiling joist are sound; however, none of the ceiling finish appears to be worth saving in this area.

Adequate framing should be provided in the area of the 1893 attic opening. This was encased in the twentieth century.

Ceilings Over the Second Floor - Tower

All of the joist and rafters in the tower should be retained. Where deterioration is found, these pieces should be doubled with new wood.

Roof Rafters/Ventilation

Wood shingles can be seen between the cracks of the sheathing. The shingles are covered by a single-ply plastic roofing membrane. The latter completely eliminated any "breathing" within the attic space. At present, there are no ventilators or windows in the upper gables. It is strongly suggested that a series of vents be added at the ridges of the roof. Cutting any penetrations through the 1730 and 1893 gabled ends of the house should be avoided.

Another method of ventilating the attic space would be a continuous ridge ventilator that could be attached over the single-ply membrane, cutting a slot along the ridge to provide ventilation. Either of these features would be a temporary device to provide ventilation necessary for the preservation of the wood in the house.

In a future renovation, regardless of the type selected, ventilators will have to be added if some roof material other than wood is selected that will not permit the passage of air. In some circumstances, a natural draft opening has been successfully added to the chimney to draw hot air out of the attic and up the chimney. This would require making a hole in the chimney on the interior of the attic. This is not recommended here.

The rafters over the tower should be retained. Two pairs of these date to 1729, the remainder to 1893. The sheathing should also be retained. Reinforcement and repairs should be made by scabbing new material onto the sides of the old. This area is in better condition than the remainder of the house. Apparently, the roof of the tower has been better maintained than that above the main block.

Site

The site is on a knoll that is currently well drained. Previous documentation indicates that vegetation had grown around the house, causing a reverse flow of water. This has obviously been corrected, and at present the cellar and crawl space are reasonably dry and well drained for this climate. Humidity and moisture are quite high in the local area. **The mulberry tree on the east side of the house should be removed immediately to prevent damage to walls and foundation.**

General Approach to Stabilization

Once an option for the building's preservation has been selected, detailed working drawings and specifications will have to be developed. It is beyond the scope of this project to recommend a specific course of action for any item targeted for restoration or stabilization. However, the following general approach should be taken.

It is always preferable to save original material *in situ*. In fact, all eighteenth-century fabric should be given the greatest amount of care and should be saved in its entirety. All attempts should be made to restore these features in place, despite the financial cost. However, it is often the case that money can actually be saved when taking this approach.

With respect to the 1893 material, reasonable attempts should be made to salvage the existing fabric. In cases of extreme decay, such as with some of the flooring and floor joists, replacement is valid if done with similar material milled to match the original.

With regard to masonry repair, care should be taken to protect original brick and mortar. Only if the mortar has decayed to the point where water penetration will be a problem should repointing be allowed. In these circumstances, the old mortar should be removed with a hand tool until solid mortar is discovered. No solid mortar should be removed. The new mortar should match the color, texture, and joints of the adjacent material. This will vary significantly from one section of a wall to another, between interior and exterior, and

between periods. Original mortar samples should be analyzed for their contents, but in general a repointing recipe should contain a high degree of sand (about four parts sand to one or two lime, and a maximum of one part white cement). Crushed oyster shell should be added to match the sizes and amounts seen in the original. Finally, the texture and color of the mortar should be regulated by the sand. No coloring agents should be added.

All Period I (ca. 1725) and Period II (1730) wood should be preserved *in situ*. In many cases this will require reinforcement by adjacent material, and at times will require an epoxy treatment. All of this material is quite significant and deserves careful attention.

CHAPTER 6: Preservation Options and Considerations

Preservation Options and Considerations

Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 specifically requires that a federal agency properly manage its historic resources. This requirement extends beyond simply maintaining a management inventory for planning the development of a particular facility. Any site eligible for the National Register of Historic Places must be given consideration in terms of the use or reuse of that resource as an alternative to the “**construction, acquisition or leasing of new facilities and to the demolition of historic properties**” (National Historic Preservation Act, Section 110(a)(1)).

Several options for use of the Matthew Jones House are discussed in this section. They range from demolition or moving the structure to the opposite extreme of a full-scale restoration. For each option, an assessment has been made as to its compliance with federal law (specifically the National Historic Preservation Act) and a rough estimate of cost has been made. Estimates are included as raw cost figures without consideration of DOA overhead. Additionally, since no specific plans have been developed these cost figures are rough estimates. More accurate figures will have to be developed once an appropriate option is chosen and the plan is more fully developed.

Except for Option 1, which stipulates “no action,” an environmental assessment of the site will need to be accomplished in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and Army Regulation 200-2. The present report can be used as a basis for satisfying the cultural resource aspects of the assessment in an attempt to fulfill the requirements of Section 106 review. Furthermore, all work is to be done in compliance with the *Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation* (revised 1990). Additionally, Section 110(b) of the National Historic Preservation Act requires that any historic property subject to alteration or damage must be documented under the *Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Architectural, Engineering, and Archaeological Documentation* (see discussion of HABS documentation under “Previous Research” in Chapter 1).

Option 1 – No Action

To carry out Option 1, which is to take no action, is in **non-compliance** of the law, and is therefore not a viable alternative. Under Section 110(a)(1)(c), an agency is required to “undertake, consistent with the preservation of such properties and the mission of the agency and the professional standards established pursuant to Section 101(f), any preservation, as may be necessary to carry out this section.” The Historic Preservation Act defines preservation as including “identification, evaluation, recordation, documentation, curation, acquisition, protection, management, rehabilitation, restoration, stabilization, maintenance, and reconstruction, or any combination of the foregoing activities.”

The Matthew Jones House has already been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Due to its unique qualities and national importance, it may be eligible for listing as a National Historic Landmark and would therefore be given further protection by federal legislation. In light of this, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act has added significance.

To take no action to stabilize the house will result in result in the eventual loss of the structure through decay. The house will continue to deteriorate unless ventilation and other structural problems are corrected. These include the weak foundation under the west chimney, poor ventilation throughout the structure, and unsafe flooring.

There is no cost for this option.

Option 2 – Stabilize and Mothball

To stabilize and mothball the house is certainly preferable to either taking no action or moving it to a new site. However, by law, an agency should make an attempt to find an appropriate and non-destructive use for the house. The Historic Preservation Act requires that “the heads of all Federal agencies shall assume responsibility for the preservation of historic properties

which are owned or controlled by such agency. Prior to acquiring, constructing, or leasing buildings for purposes of carrying out agency responsibilities, each Federal agency shall use, to the maximum extent feasible, historic properties available to the agency."

To stabilize the house, the original rear plate and the floor joists on both levels will need to be reinforced. Proper ventilation should be provided under the house and in the attic. The delamination of the rear wall needs to be corrected, the foundations of the west chimney rebuilt, and the wall selectively repointed. This option should also include updating HABS drawings, photographs, and history.

As with all options, it is imperative that all original and Period I fabric be protected. It is preferable for these members to be treated in place. When it is deemed infeasible to do so, the affected members should be carefully recorded and labeled before being removed and then properly treated before being reinstalled in their original locations. Period III (1893) members are also to be retained and preserved, but items such as framing members and floorboards that have decayed beyond use can be replaced with like material instead of being reinforced. The woodwork and brickwork from Period III must be retained.

The total estimated cost range for Option 2 is \$43,500 to \$54,375. Annual Maintenance Cost = \$3,000.00 (Maintenance checks and repairs).

Option 3 – Rehabilitation/Reuse

With this option, some minor changes to the house would be permitted to accommodate facilities for modern use. These might include the addition of plumbing, heating, ventilating, air conditioning, and new electricity. However, the integrity of the building in its Period III form should not be compromised. Further, all Period I and II members should be carefully protected as outlined in Option 2.

Reuse of the facility might include office space, living quarters, or quarters for visiting guests or officers on temporary assignment. Until the nearby wastewater treatment facility is removed, these alternatives are not feasible or desirable. If the Army chooses to connect the existing sewage disposal system to that of the City of Newport News and remove the on-site treatment facility, reuse of the Matthew Jones

House for housing or office space would become feasible.

The floors would have to be reinforced to carry the appropriate live load. The windows and doors need reworking and should be made operable. Cracks in the masonry should be repointed. The beam supporting the second-floor brick wall would have to be treated and reinforced, but left in place.

However, at least two other viable options remain for the adaptive use of the house. The first (labeled Option 3a) would involve presenting the house as a static building museum. Though the house has lost its early trim, what remains is quite significant because it represents three major periods in the development of architecture in the Chesapeake—from an essentially post-medieval plan with work and entertaining functions occurring in the hall, to a house for polite entertaining with parlor, dining room, chamber and an exterior kitchen, and finally to a modern house with milled lumber, coal fireplaces, and privacy added to the second-floor chambers. In its present state, these changes are quite readable and offer a unique opportunity for presentation to the public.

Under Option 3a, the house would be secured after hours, but would be open for unescorted tours during the day. At least a minimal number of labels would be created to help the public understand the significance and development of the site. Ideally, barriers would be installed on the interior, a full set of graphics produced, and an interpretive brochure would be made available to reinforce the message offered at the site and as a promotional piece for Fort Eustis and the DOA.

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation has two sites that are interpreted in a similar manner. The first, known as the Booker Tenement (formerly the Redwood Ordinary), is an 1820s house that has been stabilized and carefully mothballed to withstand long periods of time with little maintenance or costs. It is opened for specially guided tours. The interior of the building has been stripped of all its plaster, exposing the frame of the house. All of the changes the house underwent are now visible, and thus the structure makes an ideal teaching tool. The second site run by the Foundation is Wolstenholme Towne. Although the entire town was not reconstructed, enough of the fort and many of the houses are outlined to give visitors the sense of the original layout and scale. For visitors, this is a self-

guided tour. Barrels equipped with tape recorders are used as a non-intrusive method of delivering the message historians hope to convey to the public.

The Matthew Jones House offers two advantages over these museum sites. First, with regards to the Booker Tenement, the Matthew Jones House is much more significant and of more universal interest. The same degree of detail can be viewed, and thus there is a larger message that can be delivered to the public. At Wolstenholme Towne, the buildings are only partially reconstructed because so little is known about how these structures originally appeared. The advantage at the Jones site is that the original fabric, and not a partial recreation of it, would be interpreted.

The interpretation at Ironbridge in Great Britain is also treated in a similar manner. Here visitors take a self-guided tour through industrial and domestic settings. Although run on a relatively small budget, the museum is effective and draws many tourists.

To accomplish Option 3a, the stabilization outlined in Option 2 would be completed, as well as the following work:

- Permanent roof covering
- Repair and replace flooring
- Remove wall coverings
- Demolition of miscellaneous twentieth-century components
- Repair, reinstall, and/or remove existing trim
- HVAC (optional) (approximately \$12,000.00)
- Electrical (optional) (approximately \$4,000.00)
- Gutters and downspouts
- Landscaping
- Repair/rebuild front brick steps
- Window and door repair
- Security system (smoke and entry detection)
- Display and interpretation (Optional) (approximately \$2,000.00 to 10,000, upper end of range would include interpretive brochure and professional museum-quality display graphics)
- Update HABS drawings, photographs, and history

The total estimated cost for Option 3a is \$126,800 to \$164,750. Annual Maintenance Cost = \$17,000.00 (Utilities: \$2,000.00, Maintenance: \$3,000.00, and Security: \$12,000.00).

A second appropriate reuse plan (Option 3b) would present the architectural exhibit (Option 3a) within the

context of its environmental setting. This proposed option can be viewed as an integral part of the ongoing regional effort, by organizations such as the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, to determine the effects of land use changes on the Chesapeake Bay. To date, evidence supporting links between land use changes and environmental quality have been derived mostly from urban and industrial land and water studies. By correlating historical land use practices via the Matthew Jones House and plantation with vegetative cover types, landforms, and water sources, it may be possible to show what role the cultural and natural landscape have played in protecting or damaging the Bay environment over the past 300 years. Using this model, we can begin to explore current land use patterns and problems in an effort to develop solutions that draw on the lessons of the past. Potential research questions and issues might include the economic and material relationships of early colonists, such as Matthew Jones, with the bay environment, early health issues associated with cultural impacts on the Bay (i.e., Carville Earle's [1979] article *Environment, Disease, and Mortality in Early Virginia*, and a study of the impacts of both historic and modern agriculture and fisheries on the Bay landscape and environment. This type of environmental approach is especially appropriate for the Matthew Jones House in that Fort Eustis has been selected as the Army's model installation for the DOD/EPA Chesapeake Bay Agreement.

Under Option 3b, the Matthew Jones House would be presented as a self-guided exhibit exploring the relationships between the cultural and natural environment. In such a scenario, the house and plantation buildings would represent cultural artifacts, the James River and Chesapeake Bay would represent the environmental system of which the plantation was a part, and the nearby wastewater treatment center would represent a recent cultural component related to the preservation of the environmental system. The evolution of historic land use patterns and human activity can be explored from the perspective of the impact of the historic patterns and activities on current patterns and activities (i.e., the sewage treatment plant). Exhibits and interpretive programs would involve using the house as a historic frame of reference (and displayed as outlined in Option 3a) and the sewage treatment plant as a modern frame of reference. Organizations such as the Chesapeake Bay Foundation or the Virginia Institute of Marine Science could serve as consultants to explore the natural components.

The results of this preservation option could provide tremendous benefits to the community by providing a laboratory for cultural and environmental research and education. Few opportunities exist to study and model the evolution of rural land use from prior to the seventeenth century to the present, particularly within a single landscape. Similarly, there is no one place that offers opportunities for interpreting land use practices from the pre-colonial period to the present. The Matthew Jones House is unique in that it represents a microcosm where the cultural and environmental aspects of seventeenth- through twentieth-century life can be studied in context.

This plan would involve stabilizing the structure as discussed in Option 2 and completing the following work:

- Permanent roof covering
- Repair and replace flooring
- Remove wall coverings
- Demolition of miscellaneous twentieth-century components
- Repair, reinstall, and/or remove existing trim
- HVAC
- Electrical
- Gutters and downspouts
- Landscaping
- Repair front brick entrance steps
- Window and door repair
- Security system (smoke detection and entry detection)
- Display and interpretation (estimated range: \$50,000 to \$75,000)
- Update HABS drawings, photographs, and history

The total estimated cost for Option 3b is \$192,800 to \$259,750. Annual Maintenance Cost = \$29,000.00 (Utilities: \$4,000.00, Maintenance: \$5,000.00, and Security: \$20,000.00).

Option 3 would satisfy Section 110 guidelines for retention, finding an appropriate use, and preserving the structure. This option (including its sub-options) would most cost-effectively fulfill these federal requirements and is most sensitive to the resource. Additionally, it is favored by the consultants because it would (1) ensure the protection of all early fabric, (2) allow historians and the public to view and investigate the core of the building, and (3) would give positive exposure for Fort Eustis and the DOA.

Option 4 - Restoration

Since restoration is specifically listed as an appropriate alternative in Section 110, it is quite an acceptable solution for this site. The advantages of restoration are that it would (1) ensure the longevity of the house and thus act as a protection to the resource, (2) would serve to interpret the house to a given period of time, and (3) could be used as a positive promotional tool for Fort Eustis and the DOA.

However, there are several drawbacks. Since the architectural significance of the house extends through Period III (1893), much of the early and significant fabric of the house would be covered up and hidden from view. A record would be made of the building in its present form once a HABS project was undertaken, and thus some of this visual loss would be offset with pictorial tools. In addition, a restoration invariably causes the loss of early fabric and would have to be carefully monitored to ensure it does not happen here. Finally, restoration would cost more than a reuse plan.

The building would be restored to its 1893 appearance in conformation with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. Consideration would have to be given to locating modern facilities in an adjoining structure. Since no building exists at the present time, one could be constructed or one of the dependencies could be rebuilt and utilized for this function. This option would include the work recommended in Option 3 and specific restoration work based on restoration drawings.

The total estimated cost for Option 4 is \$229,000 to \$307,750. Annual Maintenance Cost = \$26,000.00 (Utilities: \$4,000.00, Maintenance: \$2,000.00, and Security: \$20,000.00).

Option 5 - Disassemble and Move Off Post

To disassemble and move the structure off post, the DOA would first be required to demonstrate that there is no feasible alternative to preserving it in place. Section 110(1)(a) states that

historic buildings and structures should be moved only when there is no feasible alternative for preservation. When such a property is moved, every effort should be made to reestablish its historic orientation, immediate setting and general

environment. Where there is no alternative to relocating a historic building or structure, it should be moved in accordance with National Park Service guidance, and is consistent with National Register procedures, 30 CFR Part 60. Where it is feasible to maintain a building on its original site, the cost and management responsibility of preserving the building needs to be considered relative to the cost and effort of moving it and other consequences, such as the subsequent need to relocate a construction or land use project.

Given the future development plans for Fort Eustis in this vicinity, it would be difficult to justify the lack of feasibility of preserving the house in place.

Under Option 5, the house could be moved to another site. However, an integral part of the building is the walls below grade and its foundations. The mortar that has survived for some 260 years in good to excellent condition would be lost under this option.

The interior of the building is very fragile due to decay of the wood structure. Substantial reinforcement would be required, considerably more than that required to reuse the house. If it were moved, this reinforcement would have to withstand the induced shock from vibration and differential movement of the various parts of the house. This does not appear to be a viable alternative.

Moving the house, if done properly, would exceed the cost of a proper adaptive reuse. The only rationale for moving the house would be an overpowering reason to use this particular piece of land for another purpose. Eventually, the sewage treatment facility may be removed, and the present site may become more attractive for development of the house. This option would include the following work:

- Label, make drawings, disassemble
- Transportation of materials
- Foundations
- Reassemble/restoration
- Site preparation and landscaping
- Mitigation (including updating HABS drawings and history, photo documentation, and additional archaeology).

The total estimated cost for Option 5a is \$550,000 to \$700,000. Annual Maintenance Cost = \$1,000.00 (Site Maintenance: \$1,000.00).

Another possible alternative (Option 5b) is to move the building intact. Although preferable to disassembly, it has most of the shortcomings of Option 5a and would severely compromise the integrity of the structure and the site. This option would include the following work:

- Move to new site
- Repair damage caused by moving
- New foundations
- Restoration
- Site preparation and landscaping
- Restoration of old site
- Mitigation (including updating HABS drawings, photo documentation, and archaeology).

The total estimated cost for Option 5b is \$409,200 to \$526,500. Annual Maintenance Cost = \$1,000.00 (Site Maintenance: \$1,000.00).

Option 6 - Demolition

Though demolition is physically possible, it is the least desirable of all solutions. The DOA would be required to show that no other feasible alternative was available. The house's potential for National Landmark status above and beyond its present National Register status places a heavier responsibility to find an alternative use and requires a more careful approach to the preservation of this structure. The consultants are adamantly opposed to Option 6.

This option would require the following work:

- Salvage and conservation of selected architectural features
- Demolition of the building
- Mitigation (including updating HABS drawings and history, photo documentation, archaeology)
- Disposal of debris
- Site restoration

The total estimated cost for Option 6 is \$75,000 to \$100,000. Annual Maintenance Cost = \$1,000.00 (Site Maintenance \$1,000.00).

CHAPTER 7: Research Conclusions and Management Recommendations

Research Summary

The Matthew Jones House (Site 44NN4), located on the northwest bank of Mulberry island, is a 30-ft.-9-in.-x-21-ft.-4-in., one- and one-half-story brick structure with two exterior gable-end chimneys. There is significant evidence that the building originally was of frame construction (Period I, ca. 1725) and in 1730 was heavily rebuilt in brick (Period II). All that survives from the Period I house are four framing members and the two chimneys. In 1893, the structure was given a full second floor, and the chimney stacks were lengthened to accommodate the modification.

Initially, the dwelling consisted of two principal rooms. The larger served as an old-fashioned hall incorporating cooking, dining, and possibly sleeping functions. The other room served as the principal chamber. There is circumstantial evidence that in this phase the building was of earthfast construction, complete with up braces. As with other early Chesapeake houses, the principal framing members were left exposed, in this case with chamfer and stops cut into the plate and chamber joists and cymas molded into the bottom of the hall joists. Additionally, the evidence suggests that Jones, the builder, intended to upgrade his dwelling soon after construction. Of the intended improvements he was able to construct a detached kitchen in 1727, a year before his death. Further evidence points to John Jones, guardian of Scervant Jones (son of Matthew), as the author of the next generation of alterations.

John Jones began his work in 1729 by felling trees for new framing members to be used in the renovation. He fulfilled the expectations of Matthew by bricking in the exterior walls and reducing the size of the hall fireplace to one of a more domestic scale. John's expectations were greater, though, and he completely transformed the manner in which the house was used. With a new exterior kitchen and a smaller hall fireplace, the servants and common folk were expelled from the core of the structure. The hall was decorated with a chair rail and served as the primary entertaining room. The old chamber was designated for dining,

while a shed built on the rear likely served as a chamber. Because there was no room for a passage within the confines of the original house, a porch tower was erected and provided John with control over his new entertaining spaces.

The various technologies employed in the structure and the changes in its plan present a textbook example of the transformation taking place in Chesapeake society during the eighteenth century. Scholars of vernacular architecture have concluded that earthfast construction was the primary building technology utilized by early Virginians, yet virtually all above-ground evidence for this building type has disappeared. This house is one of the last pre-Revolutionary vestiges of this lost construction technique.

As a result of changing from a traditional hall/chamber house where the master shared space with his servants, to one where segregation of activities and people dominated the layout, the dwelling became an early example of what architectural historian Dell Upton has referred to as the three-room house (Upton 1982). The addition of a circulation space provided the last major component necessary to complete the plan. Thus by 1730, the Jones house architecturally had everything considered necessary for gentile living in the eighteenth century.

In 1893 the house was again heavily reworked. This time a second floor was added and virtually all woodwork was replaced inside and out. In spite of these changes, enough evidence survives to piece together the developmental history of this fascinating structure.

Significance

A case can be made that the Matthew Jones House is of national significance and therefore eligible for listing as a National Historic Landmark. It is beyond the scope of this report to make a full defense for Landmark status. Essentially, though, the house is a

Option	Type	Cost Range	Maintenance Cost per Year	Compliance	Rating
1	No action	\$0	\$0	No	Low
2	Stabilize and mothball	\$43,500-54,375	\$3,000	No	Low
3a	Rehab; reuse; architectural exhibit	\$126,800-164,750	\$17,000	Yes	High
3b	Rehab; reuse; natural/cultural history exhibit	\$192,800-259,750	\$29,000	Yes	High
4	Restoration	\$229,000-307,750	\$26,000	Yes	Low
5a	Move: disassemble	\$550,000-700,000	\$1,000	Possibly	Low
5b	Move: intact	\$409,200-526,500	\$1,000	Possibly	Low
6	Demolition	\$75,000-100,000	\$1,000	No	Low

Table 3. Summary of preservation plan options.

classic example representing the evolution of architecture in the Chesapeake from a post-medieval form where servants and master worked and entertained in the hall of a two-room house, to a three-room dwelling with a detached kitchen. In the latter, 1730 phase, the servants were expelled from the core of the house and the plan was arranged solely for entertainment. Circulation was controlled by a porch tower, the hall was given over to parlor functions, the chamber became the new dining room, and a shed was built for a chamber. As significant, the original house was of frame construction, most likely with earthfast posts. The frame—including posts, joists, and plates—was decorated and incorporated a tilted false plate roof. Once modified, the walls were bricked, following a larger pattern in the second quarter of the eighteenth century that saw a general upgrading of materials and construction technology, at least for the wealthy. In general, this transformation took place all over the eastern seaboard; more specifically, the developments occurring in the Chesapeake were being mirrored in the Mid-Atlantic states and copied in the South and in new areas opening to the west. The Matthew Jones House is one of the few remaining and clearest examples of this particular development.

Management Recommendations

Though the significance of the house clearly relates to the eighteenth century, the general 1893

form of the structure should be retained. The building is in sound condition, but needs some basic stabilization to keep it from rapidly deteriorating further. Particularly, the west fireplace requires immediate attention, as do the floorboards and both sets of joists in the main block. With the present roof covering, the attic severely needs ventilation. In addition to general repointing, the delamination of the brickwork on the exterior must be corrected.

Once stabilized, one of several developmental options is recommended for the building's reuse (Table 3). The favored alternatives include reusing the structure in some manner, either as an architectural museum where the building itself is the artifact on display, or as a museum with a broader theme involving the natural and cultural contexts of the house. Restoration is always an alternative, but has several drawbacks. This option would cost significantly more and would necessarily hide some of the more interesting and important aspects of the building. In addition, if a pre-1893 date were chosen for the restoration period, the second-floor addition, made of brick salvaged from the 1727 kitchen, would be lost. Of all the options, demolition and removal to another site are the least practical in terms of the historic and architectural context of the structure and in terms of both technological and cost considerations.

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APPENDIX A

**Description of the Brickhouse Tract, W. R. Webb, owner
Plat of Corner - Lucust & Moss on Public Road
Warwick County Records, Virginia State Library
Report of Proceessioners of Stanley District, 1902, p. 46**

Com In center of Public Road (see plat of Corner Page 45) corner of Webb, Lucust & Moss, & O.D.L. Co. (or Fitchett - tract-), then W.N.W. to Maple on S side of the George Jones old road, along S side of said road to pine, then to small pine five feet from center of old ditch. Corner of Webb on Fitchett tract - , then down ditch S.W. by corse & along ditch to large gum on W side, then to sweet gum then to black gum in ditch, then to large Maple in deep ditch then to very large pine near edge of swamp, the to center of swamp the N.W.ly down swamp as it runs to head of Deep Landing Creek down Creek to James River, down said river to Brickhouse Creek, up said Creek as it runs to stob at Wire fence then to small gum (see plat of corner Page 45 Corner of Webb & Folly tract -, up center of Public Road to point in line with large pine (Lucust Corner) (Plat - Page 45) then N.W. to small pine back of Lucust stable, then E.N.E. to large gum, same corne[r] to White Oak at Moss crib, then to small black gum on edge of Road (see plat - of Corner Page 45) then to center of Public Road, corner of Webb, Lucust & Moss & O.D.L. Co. or Fitchett Tract at Com

Present W.R. Webb

APPENDIX B

Will of Matthew Jones
Isle of Wight County, Virginia, Will Book 3 (1726-1734)
Last Will and Testament of Matthew Jones, 1727/1728
CWF M-1541.13, pp. 65-66

The Last Will and Testament of Matthew Jones I bequeth that Estate wch the Lord hath bestoed upon me, as followeth my Debts being paid.

Item. I Give to my Son Servant Jones my Tract of Land in Warwick County left to me by my father and Likewise I Give him the following negros (Vizt) Sam, Basco & Pegg, Ciss, and likewise I Give the third part of the Cattle hogs sheep of the aforsaid plantation this being in full of his part or parsell of my Estate and I Desire that my Sister Marget Jones and my Cozen Matthew Jones to take the Child and bring him up in the fear of God out of the profits of the Estate.

Item. I Give to my Daughter Ann my plantation I bought of Thomas Briant at Nottaway Swamp and if she dies without heirs then I Give it to my Daughter Marget and these following negros (Vizt) Fillis, Frank, & her negro Child Betty.

Item. I Give to my Daughter Marget all the Land that lyes on the road on East side to Doctor Browns including the Land in Applewhaite Neck and Chinkapen Neck and her heirs and for want of such heirs to my Daughter Agethy and I Give my Daughter Marget these following negros (Vizt) Peg, Roger, Nance.

Item. I Give to my Daughter Agethy my Tract of Land which is the Survey of Henry Summerlings on Nottaway to her and her heirs & for want of such heirs to my son Albridgton & likewise I Give her these following negros (Vizt) Frank, man negro Girl Liss.

Item. I Give to my son Britten one Tract of Land Containing one hundred and forty four Acres in Warwick County bought of Edward Kippin and all the Land at Nottaway River that I have not bequeathed before I Give to him likewise and likewise I Give to my Son Britten these following negros (Vizt) Frank Fillis at Nottaway and Charity.

Item. I Give to my loving wife these following negros Tomboy, Will, Jenny, Sarah, my will and desire is that my wife may dispose of these negros among her Children as she thinks fitt.

Item. I Desire that my Land and Stock in Brunswick County may be sould & the neat proceeds of it to return to my Estate. and it is my Desire that when all my Debts and Legacies are paid I leave the rest & remainder of my Estate to be equally divided between my loving wife and Britten, Ann, Marget, Agethy my Children wherefore I appoint and leave my wife fully and soly Executrix of this my last will and Testamt. and making all other wills by me made as witness my Hand & seal this 28th Janry
1727/1728

Matth: Jones Seal

Witnesses Mary^{her}Wren Ann^{he}X^BBidgood Edward Walton
mark mark

At a Court held for Isle of Wight
County the 25th day of March 1728.

The Last will and Testament of Matthew Jones Gent deced was presented in Court by Elizabeth Jones Executrix therein named who made oath thereto and being proved by the oaths of the Witnesses thereto is admitted to Record.

Test James Ingles Clerk
Veras Recordat Test James Ingles [Cl]

APPENDIX C

**Probate Inventory of Matthew Jones's Estate
Isle of Wight County, Will Book 3 (1726-1734)
Inventory and Appraisalment of Matthew Jones, 1728
CWF M-1541.13, pp. 117-118**

An Inventory and Appraisalment of the Estate of Mattw. Jones Deced. Taken this 21 Day of June 1728 Viz:

18 Cows at 18 £13.10 1 Yoke of Oxen £3.10s.	
2 Bulls £1.10s	£ 18.10.-
3 two year old Heifers £11.17s. 6, 1 two year old Steer 12/6	2.10.-
4 Yearlings £1.12, 4 Calves 16S 13 Two year old Hogs £2.6.6	4.13.1
6 Shotes 8 piggs 17S 1 Mare & Yearling Colt £1.18	2.12.-
1 Do and young Colt £2. 1 small horse & one large £1.15S [per] £5.10	9.5.-
In the New house up Stairs	
1 feather Bed & furniture	6.....
1 Do. at £5, 1 Table and the furniture on it	6.2.6
6 Cane Chairs at 5S 1 Cedar Chest	1.18.-
1 Black leather Trunk and Seal Skin Do £1.10, 1 red loose Coat £1.5S	2.15.-
In the New House below Stairs	
1 Ovale Table 15S 10 leather Chairs at 4S	
2 flag Do. 4S 1 Old Case of Bottles	
1 Black Trunk £1.2.6	4.1.6
1 feather bed & furniture £7 1 Cole Still £1.15	8.15.-
Glasses & Earthen ware on the Mantle Tree	-.10.-
1 Looking Glass 4 Stone Juggs £1.11s, 1 Silvr H[]lled S[]d & Brass Trumpr £3.2.6	4.13.6
A parcel of pictures & 1 pr. money Scales 9/16 a Pcell of books £2	2.9.6
In the Old House Chamber	
1 feather bed and furniture	3.- . -
1 Do. at 3l. 10s, 1 Sadle pistols Holsters Carlooch[?] Box & Bridle £4.10/	8. - -
2 Old Chests 2 Old Boxes & 1 Old Trunk	- 10 -
1 Old Settle Bed & 1 Old Chair	- 5 -
2 Wheat Sifters 2 Old Chests & Some Lumber	- 16 -
2 Old Spinning Wheelles and 1 Old Chest	- 10 -
In the Old Parlor	
1 feathr. bed & furniture £4, 1 Do. 2l. 10	6.10 -
1 Old Looking Glass 2 Trunks and a Box Iron	-,17. 6
3 Old Chairs & Some Earthenware 1 pr. Bellows-	- 10. -
1 Box Iron 1 Warming pan 6/ 1 great Chest 1 Old Chst of Drawrs. 15S	1. 1 -

2 punch Bowls & 1 Candle Box [], 92 oz. of plate at 4s. 9d £21.67d	22.2. -
1 Silver Watch	5.10 -
In the Milk house	
21 Patto pans 5/3, 3 Buttr. potts & Some earthenware 8/	-13. 3
2 Bell mettle Skillets 12/ a Pcell of Old Lumber 4S	-16 -
22 plates at 12d £104 pewter at 10s	5. 8. 8
1 pottle pott & a parcell of Tin ware	0. 6. 6
1 pr. Stilyards	-10 -
[p. 118]	
In the Old Hall	
1 folding Table and 9 Chairs	1 - -
3 Brass Candle Sticks 2 Muggs 7s. 1 Small Table & Chest 12S	- 19 -
1 Old punch Bowl and Some Carpent[] 7/6 1 Carbine fitted £1.7.6	1.15 -
In the Kitchen	
6 Spitts and 1 pr. Handirons	1.13 -
1 frying pan & platewarmer 2/6, 2 old pails 1 old Sifter 2/6	- 5 -
1 Brass Kettle at 34l. at 12 d. [per] £1.14s, 86l. potiron a 8d [per] £1.1.6d	2.15. 6
25l Do. at 3S 1 D[] Table Cloth & 6 Napkins at 10S	- 13 -
1 Linnen Table Cloth & 5 Napkins 5/ 1 pr. of Corse Sheets 7/6	- 12. 6
A parcell of Old Cask & Tubbs 12/6, 7 Sheep 4/ £1.8	- 2- 6
18 Sides of Leather & 3 Hogs 3l, 1 Sow & 10 Shotes 1l. 10s, 1 large Leather Chair 5S	4.15 -
Att the Quartr Near Nottoway River	
15 Cows at 20s	15 - -
2 large Steers at 35/ £3.10s 5 Small Steers at £3.5	6.15. -
3 Heifers of 2 yrs. old £1.7.6 2 Yearlings 16s. 1 Young Bull 12/	2.15. 6
1 Mare and yearling Colt £2.10 1 Two yr. old Horse 12/6 4 Ews & 3 lambs £1	4. 2. 6
1 Bed & furniture £3, 1 yearling & 4 Calves £1.6, 19 Hogs & 4 Shotes 4.13.6	8.19. 6
1 Cow & Calf £1, 1 Iron pot 1 XCut Saw 1 pr. Stilyards 18/	1.18. -
1 Chafing dish & Spice Mortr. 9s, 3 Cows & Calves 3l, 3 Yearlings £1.4	<u>4.13. -</u>
Totale	192.13. 5

In Obedience to an Order of the Isle White County Court Dated the 25 day of March 1728 We the Subscribers having been first Sworn before Majr. Thomas Walton have Vallued the Estate of Mathew Jones Gent Deced as in the above Appraismt. may Appear Errors Except

[per] Lawr: Baker, Thomas Murry, Samle Davis

At a Court held for Isle of Wight
County 26th Day of August 1728

The above Appraismt. of the Estate of Mathew Jones Gent Deced was presented in Court by the Exec. Ec. & admitted to record

Test James Ingles Co. Car
Vera Recordat Test. Jas. Ingles Cll[]”

APPENDIX D

SITE 44NN4: ARTIFACT INVENTORY

CONTEXT: NN4/A1 TPQ: modern

- 18 Bottle glass, colorless
- 1 Glass fragment, colorless: fluted
- 3 Glass fragments?, molten
- 21 Window glass
- 1 Hook, iron; 5 1/8" length
- 1 Hose/pipe support, iron; with wire nail
- 1 Nail, cut
- 14 Nails, wire
- 5 Nails, roofing; wire
- 1 Plate iron
- 3 Slag
- 1 Spike, cut; 6" length
- 2 Brick fragments, indeterminate
- 2 Brick fragments, handmade
- 1 Button, shell; 11/16" diameter
- 7 Coal
- 8 Mortar, sand and shell
- 2 Oyster shell, lower valve
- 1 Oyster shell, upper valve

CONTEXT: NN4/A2 TPQ: modern

- 2 Refined earthenware
- 1 Refined earthenware: rim fragment, cup
- 1 Refined earthenware: rim fragment, hollowware
- 10 Bottle glass, colorless
- 4 Bottle glass, aqua
- 163 Window glass
- 1 Clasp half, copper alloy
- 3 Hinge fragments, iron
- 1 Hose/pipe support, iron; with wire nail
- 14 Nails, indeterminate
- 9 Nails, cut
- 7 Nails, wire
- 1 Nail, roofing; wire
- 3 Nail fragments
- 1 Screw
- 5 Slag
- 1 Bone
- 3 Brick fragments, indeterminate
- 7 Coal cinders
- 2 Cement
- 3 Insulator fragments, porcellaneous
- 2 Oyster shell fragments
- 3 Glove leather, discarded

CONTEXT: NN4/A4 TPQ: modern

- 1 Pearlware: rim fragment, hollowware, hand painted polychrome, pastel palette?
- 6 Bottle glass, colorless
- 57 Window glass

CONTEXT: NN4/A4 TPQ: modern CONTINUED:

- 1 Grommet with leather fragment
 - 1 Nail, indeterminate
 - 1 Nail, wire
 - 1 Slag
 - 2 Brick fragments, handmade
 - 3 Coal
 - 1 Coal cinder
 - 2 Shale
 - 1 Oyster shell, lower valve
 - 1 Oyster shell, upper valve
-

CONTEXT: NN4/B1 TPQ: modern

- 1 Porcelain: base fragment, hollowware
 - 1 Bottle glass, aqua
 - 3 Canning jar lid liner fragments, opaque white glass
 - 4 Window glass
 - 1 Hinge-like fragment, iron
 - 1 Lead scrap
 - 1 Nail, indeterminate
 - 2 Nails, cut
 - 6 Nails, wire
 - 6 Nail fragments
 - 6 Bone
 - 5 Brick fragments, indeterminate
 - 3 Cement/concrete
 - 2 Coal
 - 5 Mortar, sand and shell
 - 3 Plaster-like fragments
 - 5 Plastic
 - 1 Rubber
 - 1 Shale
 - 1 Oyster shell fragment
-

CONTEXT: NN4/B2 TPQ: modern

- 1 Refined earthenware: rim fragment, hollowware
 - 1 Bottle glass, colorless
 - 15 Window glass
 - 2 Lead scrap
 - 3 Nails, indeterminate
 - 1 Nail fragment
 - 2 Bone
 - 3 Brick fragments, handmade
 - 3 Coal
 - 2 Coal cinders
 - 1 Concrete
 - 3 Mortar, sand and shell
 - 1 Shale
-

CONTEXT: NN4/B4 TPQ: modern

- 1 Window glass
- 1 Cap-like object, indeterminate alloy; illegibly embossed; 1" diameter
- 1 Nail fragment
- 3 Slag

CONTEXT: NN4/B4 TPQ: modern CONTINUED:

- 4 Brick fragments, indeterminate
 - 1 Coal
 - 4 Coal cinders
 - 2 Mortar, shell
 - 20 Bog iron, discarded
-

CONTEXT: NN4/C1 TPQ: modern

- 1 Refined earthenware
 - 22 Bottle glass, colorless
 - 2 Bottle glass, colorless: embossed "...LAW...E OF T...E P..."; "...ORBIDS SA...HIS BOTT...NT..."
 - 15 Window glass
 - 1 Bottle cap?
 - 1 Iron fragment, flat
 - 2 Nails, indeterminate
 - 1 Nail, cut
 - 1 Tin can fragment
 - 24 Bone
 - 2 Mortar, shell
 - 15 Oyster shell, lower valve
 - 6 Oyster shell, upper valve
-

CONTEXT: NN4/C2 TPQ: modern

- 1 Bottle glass, colorless
 - 1 Phial, colorless: machine-made, metal cap and cotton contents intact, 7/8" bottle height
 - 15 Window glass
 - 2 Nails, indeterminate
 - 1 Nail, cut
 - 1 Nail fragment
 - 1 Slag
 - 2 Bone
 - 3 Brick fragments, indeterminate
 - 2 Mortar, shell
 - 12 Oyster shell, lower valve
 - 4 Oyster shell, upper valve
-

CONTEXT: NN4/C3 TPQ: NDA

- 4 Oyster shell, lower valve
 - 2 Oyster shell, upper valve
-

CONTEXT: NN4/C4 TPQ: modern

- 1 Window glass
 - 1 Candy wrapper, discarded
-

CONTEXT: NN4/C5 TPQ: modern

- 4 Iron fragments, flat
 - 1 Lipton instant soup label, paper; discarded
-

CONTEXT: NN4/C6 TPQ: NDA

- 1 Oyster shell, lower valve
-

CONTEXT: NN4/D1 TPQ: modern

- 1 Glass fragment, colorless
 - 274 Window glass
 - 2 Nails, indeterminate
 - 4 Nails, cut
 - 7 Nails, wire
 - 4 Nail fragments
 - 1 Screw, steel
 - 2 Washer, steel
 - 4 Brick fragments, indeterminate
 - 8 Cement/concrete
 - 1 Coal
 - 4 Coal cinders
 - 1 Insulator, porcelain; 1 3/16" x 3/4" x 5/8"
 - 5 Mortar, shell
 - 6 Oyster shell, lower valve
 - 1 Pull-top can tab, aluminum; discarded
 - 1 Tampon wrapper, plastic; labeled "Petal Soft/Plastic Applicator/OPEN THIS END/REGULAR TAMPAX/DO NOT FLUSH/PLASTIC APPLICATOR/OR WRAPPER"; discarded
-

CONTEXT: NN4/D2 TPQ: modern

- 1 White saltglazed stoneware: scratch blue
 - 1 Bottle glass, colorless
 - 1 Glass fragment, purple
 - 46 Window glass
 - 1 Nail, indeterminate
 - 1 Nail, cut
 - 2 Brick fragments, handmade
 - 1 Concrete
 - 6 Oyster shell fragments
-

CONTEXT: NN4/D3 TPQ: modern

- 1 Debitage?, quartz
 - 1 American grey stoneware
 - 101 Window glass
 - 1 Nail, indeterminate
 - 2 Nails, wire
 - 1 Spike, cut
 - 4 Brick fragments, handmade
 - 3 Cement/concrete
 - 1 Mortar, shell
 - 4 Oyster shell, lower valve
 - 3 Oyster shell, upper valve
-

CONTEXT: NN4/D4 TPQ: modern

- 1 Bottle glass, light green
- 24 Glass fragments, colorless
- 1 Glass fragment, red
- 42 Window glass
- 4 Nails, indeterminate
- 2 Nails, wire
- 3 Nails, roofing; wire
- 1 Nail fragment

CONTEXT: NN4/D4 TPQ: modern CONTINUED:

- 2 Brick fragments, indeterminate
 - 2 Plaster, shell
 - 4 Oyster shell, lower valve
 - 3 Oyster shell, upper valve
-

CONTEXT: NN4/D5 TPQ: modern

- 1 Clay pipe bowl fragment, English
 - 1 Clay pipe stem, English: SHD 5/64-1
 - 2 Glass fragments, colorless
 - 3 Window glass
 - 1 Bone
 - 2 Brick fragments?, handmade
 - 1 Brick fragment, handmade
 - 1 Cement/concrete
 - 1 Plaster, shell
 - 13 Oyster shell, lower valve
-

CONTEXT: NN4/D7 TPQ: modern

- 1 Clay pipe bowl fragment, English
 - 1 Pearlware
 - 1 Pearlware: rim fragment, plate, shell-edged green
 - 6 Refined earthenware
 - 1 Bottle glass, dark green
 - 1 Bottle glass, aqua
 - 2 Bottle glass, colorless
 - 9 Glass fragments, opaque white
 - 31 Glass fragments, colorless
 - 194 Window glass
 - 2 Nails, indeterminate
 - 1 Nail, wrought
 - 5 Nails, cut
 - 12 Nails, wire
 - 2 Nails, roofing; wire
 - 5 Nail fragments
 - 1 Bone
 - 29 Oyster shell, lower valve
 - 9 Oyster shell, upper valve
-

CONTEXT: NN4/D9 TPQ: NDA

- 1 Glass fragment, colorless
 - 1 Brick fragment, indeterminate
 - 1 Plaster, shell
 - 2 Oyster shell, lower valve
 - 2 Oyster shell, upper valve
-

CONTEXT: NN4/D11 TPQ: 18th c.?

- 1 Clay pipe stem, English: SHD 5/64-1
 - 1 Table glass(?), colorless
 - 1 Oyster shell, lower valve
-

APPENDIX E

Architectural Inventory

Schedule of Architectural Components

Period I = ca. 1725
 Period II = 1730
 Period III = 1893
 Period IV = ca. 1930

Item	Period	Evidence for Date; Comments
Perimeter foundations (excluding chimneys) and creation of cellar	II	Archaeology
Foundation under wall between main house and shed and accompanying plate	III	Dendrochronology, see text
Bulkhead	IV	
Chimneys	I	Archaeology
Fire box, west		
Large opening	I	
Mid-size opening	II	
Small opening	III	
Fire box, east		
Large opening	I	
Small opening	II	
Front steps	?	Not visible
Exterior cornice	III	
Brick walls, 1½ story	II	Archaeology
Brick walls, second story	III	
Shed	II	See text
Tower	II	See text
First-floor joists, main block	III	Dendrochronology
First-floor joists, shed	II	Dendrochronology, see text
First-floor joists, tower	II	Dendrochronology
Floorboards throughout (except where noted)	III	
Floorboards, second floor, west room	IV	

Interior partitions, (except where noted)	III	
Frame between main, block and shed	III, modern	
Plaster	III	
Wallboard	IV	
Mantels	III	
Baseboards	III	
Window trim, sash	III	
East room, exterior door		
Trim	III	Possibly dates to the early twentieth century
Door	IV	
Front door		
Trim	III	
Door	Modern	
Interior doors, trim	III	
Stair	III	
Plates carrying floor joists	I	See text
Second-floor joists		
All but end joists	III	Dendrochronology
End joists	I	See text
Shed chimney	II	
Shed fireplace infill	III, IV	
Shed plate	II	
Shed rafters	III	
Attic joists, main block	III	Dendrochronology
Tower joists		
Second floor	II	Dendrochronology
Attic	II	Dendrochronology
Rafters, main block	III	Dendrochronology
Roof sheathing	III	Circular sawn, cut nailed
Shingles	IV	Circular sawn
Tower false plate	III	Circular sawn

Tower rafters
Outer 2 pairs
All others

I
III

Plates at juncture of main and tower roofs

III

Dendrochronology
Circular sawn

Reused period II joists

APPENDIX F

SUMMARY OF COST ESTIMATES FOR PRESERVATION OPTIONS

Option 2 – Stabilize and Mothball

Reinforcement of rear plate	3,500	4,375
Reinforcement of floor joists	7,000	8,750
Ventilation	1,500	1,875
Correction of delamination of rear wall	2,000	2,500
Foundations of west chimney rebuilt	5,500	6,875
Selective repointing	5,000	7,500
Update HABS drawings, photographs, history	15,000	18,750
Miscellaneous	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,750</u>
Total -	\$ 43,500	\$ 54,375

Option 3A - Rehabilitation/Reuse

Stabilize (see Option 2)	\$ 43,500	\$ 54,375
Permanent roof covering	12,000	15,000
Repair and replace flooring	7,000	8,750
Remove wallcoverings	2,500	3,125
Demolition of miscellaneous twentieth- century components	2,500	3,125
Repair, reinstall, and/or remove existing trim	7,000	8,750
Gutters and downspouts	4,000	5,000
Landscaping	5,000	12,000
Repair/rebuilt front brick steps	800	2,500
Window and door repair	16,500	19,625
Security system (smoke and entry detection)	3,500	4,375
Miscellaneous	7,500	9,375
Update HABS drawings, photographs, history	<u>15,000</u>	<u>18,750</u>
Total without options -	\$ 126,800	\$164,750
Options:		
HVAC	12,000	15,000
Electrical	4,000	5,000
Display and interpretative	<u>3,000</u>	<u>12,000</u>
Total with options -	\$ 145,800	\$ 196,750

Option 3B – Environmental Museum

Stabilize/rehabilitate (see Option 3A)	126,800	164,750
HVAC	12,000	15,000
Electrical	4,000	5,000
Display and interpretation	<u>50,000</u>	<u>75,000</u>
Total -	\$ 192,800	\$ 259,750

Option 4 – Restoration

1650 sq. ft. x \$120/sq. ft.	199,200	
1650 sq. ft. x \$160/sq. ft.	264,000	
Landscaping	15,000	25,000
Update HABS drawings, photographs, history	<u>15,000</u>	<u>18,750</u>
Total -	\$ 229,000	\$ 307,750

Option 5A – Disassemble and Move Off Post

Disassemble, label, drawings	65,000	81,250
Transportation of materials	15,000	18,750
Foundations	40,000	50,000
Reassemble/Restoration	330,000	412,500
Site Preparation and Landscaping	65,000	81,250
Restoration of old site	10,000	12,500
Mitigation	<u>35,000</u>	<u>43,750</u>
Total -	\$ 560,000	\$ 700,000

Option 5B – Move Building, Restore

Move to new site	40,000	50,000
Repair of damage caused by moving	20,000	25,000
Foundations	40,000	50,000
Restoration (see Option 4)	199,200	264,000
Site preparation and landscaping	65,000	81,250
Old site restoration	10,000	12,500
Mitigation	<u>35,000</u>	<u>43,750</u>
Total -	\$ 409,200	\$ 526,500

Option 6 – Demolition

Salvage, conservation of selected materials	15,000	25,000
Demolition of building	7,000	8,750
Mitigation	35,000	43,750
Disposal of debris	8,000	10,000
Site restoration	<u>10,000</u>	<u>12,500</u>
Total -	\$ 75,000	\$ 100,000