

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

MAY 31 1977

DATE ENTERED

DEC 29 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

"GREEN SPRING"

AND/OR COMMON

COLONIAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

WILLIAMSBURG

VICINITY OF

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

VIRGINIA

CODE

51

COUNTY
JAMES CITY

CODE

095

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

MID-ATLANTIC REGION, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STREET & NUMBER

143 SOUTH THIRD STREET

CITY, TOWN

PHILADELPHIA

— VICINITY OF

STATE

PENNSYLVANIA

19106

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

JAMES CITY COUNTY COURTHOUSE

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

WILLIAMSBURG

STATE

VIRGINIA

23185

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

DATE

1920

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

CITY, TOWN

WASHINGTON

STATE
D.C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The site of "Green Spring" is currently in a natural setting overgrown with weeds and briars. No attempt has been made by the Park Service to provide interpretive facilities on the property. The ruins of two seventeenth-century brick structures--the "Jail" and the greenhouse are the only visible above-ground remains.

Archaeological excavations conducted in 1954-55 by Louis Caywood exposed remains of the two earliest mansions of "Green Spring" as well as associated outbuildings and appurtenances. The first mansion (1) was a composite resulting from different periods of construction. Sir William Berkeley had erected the structure by c. 1650. The brick foundations may have supported frame walls. Two projecting towers or chimneys, probably of brick, stood at the rear end of the structure. The excavated foundations reveal a floor plan of rooms clustered asymmetrically around a central hall. Cellars lay beneath three of the rooms. In general, the building in all probability presented a mediaeval appearance.

The second mansion (2) was constructed adjoining the northwest section of the initial structure. Although it is often assumed that Berkeley also erected this second building, it is possible that construction did not occur until after his death in 1677.

The manner in which the foundations from the later building cut through those of the earlier strongly suggest that the first structure was abandoned and razed prior or immediately following construction of the larger building to the west.

Benjamin Latrobe sketched the second mansion in 1796. This sketch portrays the building as a brick structure one-and-one-half stories in height with leaded casement windows. A projecting entrance porch capped by a curvilinear gable is also depicted. An I-shaped floor plan of three rooms in the main section and a fourth room in an ell extending from the northwest corner is indicated by the foundations. Partial cellars underlay two of the rooms, and a full cellar lay beneath the ell. The building was dismantled shortly after the 1796 sketch was made, and William Ludwell Lee, then owner of the property, constructed a third mansion [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Nothing remains of the Lee House, (which burned in the nineteenth century) and the site has not been investigated archaeologically.

The brick foundation of a seventeenth-century structure (3) which once served as an exterior kitchen was uncovered [REDACTED]. The building, apparently removed in the nineteenth century, possessed a central H-shaped chimney flanked by two bake ovens.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The waters of a natural spring enticed the Paspahegh Indians to erect a village on the property well before the initial English settlement of Jamestown. In 1641 Sir William Berkeley was appointed Governor of the Virginia Colony. He obtained acreage known as "Green Spring" on June 4, 1643. He had constructed a dwelling house (the first mansion) by c. 1650.

Berkeley resigned as Governor three years later although he maintained his residence at "Green Spring". He served a second term as Governor which commenced with the restoration of Charles II to the English throne in 1660 and ended with Berkeley's death in 1677. At the age of 64, he married the 34-year old Lady Frances Culpeper Stephens in 1670. It is possible that the second mansion was constructed at this time.

The colony of Virginia was shaken in 1676 by a rebellion led by Nathaniel Bacon. Bacon's men captured Jamestown and burned most of the capital. The House of Burgesses then met at the Governor's house at "Green Spring" until Jamestown [REDACTED] was reoccupied.

Following Berkeley's death in 1677, his widow married into the Ludwell family, which retained possession of the property into the eighteenth century. A prelude to the climactic battle of Yorktown occurred near "Green Spring" on July 6, 1781, as American forces commanded by Lafayette attacked Cornwallis' British army and were repulsed.

The second mansion of "Green Spring" was dismantled in 1796, and was replaced by a new home built for William Ludwell Lee.

In many ways "Green Spring" provided a model for the Southern plantations of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. By the last quarter of the seventeenth century the house and its dependencies represented a completely self-sufficient unit supported by a complement of slaves. The symmetrical arrangement of a formal garden with entrance court, forecourt and enclosing walls was to serve as a harbinger of the carefully landscaped grounds which surrounded many of the finer homes in the eighteenth century.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CAYWOOD, LOUIS. EXCAVATIONS AT GREEN SPRING PLANTATION, COLONIAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, 1955.

MORRISON, HUGH. EARLY AMERICAN ARCHITECTURE, NEW YORK: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 1952.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY [REDACTED]

UTM REFERENCES

A [REDACTED]
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B [REDACTED]
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C [REDACTED]

D [REDACTED]

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

[REDACTED]

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

JAMES HASKETT, CHIEF OF INTERPRETATION (GNHP), AND BROOKE BLADES, HISTORIAN (MARO)

ORGANIZATION

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATE

SEPTEMBER 13, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

143 SOUTH THIRD STREET

TELEPHONE

(215) 597-9970

CITY OR TOWN

PHILADELPHIA

STATE

PENNSYLVANIA 19106

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES___ NO___ NONE___

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National ___ State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

[Signature] MAY 25 1977

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

[Signature]

DATE 12/29/78
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *[Signature]*

DATE 12/1978

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE one

Deteriorating brick walls laid in English bond surrounding an open cellar are the only remains of a seventeenth-century structure known as the "Jail" (4). [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A brick drain was uncovered running from the building in a southwesterly direction.

The rapidly deteriorating north wall of the greenhouse (5) still stands [REDACTED]. This wall was constructed in two stages--the original brick wall was covered on the exterior with a second brick wall coated with plaster. The original south wall was probably frame and glass. The base of a cast iron stove is located within the ruins, indicating the probable source of heat. The structure was erected in the mid-seventeenth century and apparently abandoned in the 1860's.

The location of the original seventeenth-century spring house (6) [REDACTED]. This site was not excavated. The spring still flows with fresh water, as it has for many centuries.

Remains of a brick pottery kiln (7) were excavated [REDACTED]. This kiln was producing crude earthenware vessels during the second half of the seventeenth century.

As the second mansion was completed, the grounds south of the house were laid out in a formal entrance court/forecourt arrangement. The forecourt (8) was originally enclosed by a rectangular garden wall (9) which was later replaced by curving walls (10). A catch basin (11) to service a drain installed during the construction of the second mansion lay between the west rectangular garden wall and curved wall. The grade of the entire forecourt was later raised and a terrace was added west of the west curved wall.

The brick foundations of a structure (12) were uncovered in the southeast corner of the forecourt. The original use of this building was unknown (massive foundation widths of 2' 10" are puzzling). Since this building would have represented a visual intrusion upon the formal garden arrangement, it must have ceased to exist before the garden was laid out.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE one

Although tobacco quickly became Virginia's chief source of prosperity, numerous colonists attempted to broaden the economic base through diversification of agricultural production. Berkeley was one of the most active in these attempts. He experimented with horticulture, cultivated rice and flax, and sought to produce both wine and silk to supplement the tobacco staple.