

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Cedar Lane
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New Kent County, Virginia
County and State
10000985
NR Reference Number

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State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this additional documentation move removal
 name change (additional documentation) other

meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.



Signature of Certifying Official/Title:
Virginia Department of Historic Resources/ Director

4/21/2020

Date of Action

National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- additional documentation accepted
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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Introduction

Cedar Lane, located at 9040 New Kent Highway in New Kent County, Virginia, was listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register in 2016 and the National Register of Historic Places in 2017. The property includes one resource, the manor house, which is situated on a low knoll about ¼-mile north of the highway. Since the property’s listing, repairs and rehabilitation work at Cedar Lane have revealed new information about the construction of the primary dwelling. This additional documentation, prepared by architectural historian and State Review Board member Dr. Carl Lounsbury after a site visit to the property, updates and clarifies the construction and evolution of Cedar Lane from the second quarter of the 19th century through the early 20th century. Alterations made in the early twentieth century, including a small addition, are largely in keeping with the alterations discussed in the original nomination, but are explained further below. The most recent alterations occurred in 2017-2018 to accommodate renewed residential use.

All new information herein is organized by section headings as listed in the current NRHP nomination form. Additional documentation is in the following sections from the current NRHP nomination form: Section 7, Description; Section 8, Statement of Significance; and Section 11, information regarding author. Only fields that have been updated are included in this additional documentation. Cedar Lane’s historic boundary *has not changed* as a result of this additional documentation.

In Section 7, the construction and alteration history of Cedar Lane is discussed at length by construction period: Period I, 1826; Period II, 1829; Period III, 1865; Period IV, Late 19th – Early 20th Century; Period V, Late 20th Century Repairs and Alterations, and Period VI, 2017-2018 Repairs and Alterations. The updated description herein supersedes the description of Cedar Lane’s evolution found in the 2017 nomination. This more developed understanding of the house’s construction calls for a revision to the period of significance, originally 1782-1860. Therefore, in Section 8, Cedar Lane’s period of significance is revised to begin more appropriately in 1826, the most likely date of construction for the house’s earliest section, and end in 1865, the date associated with alterations likely occurring at the end of the Civil War.

Section 7. Description

Additional Documentation Concerning Construction and Alterations

Cedar Lane’s irregular massing, stretching nearly 80 feet in length, reflects a series of additions and alterations made to the original central section of the house during the 19th and early 20th centuries (Figure 1). Built in 1826 as a modest 26- by 16-foot, one-story, side-passage house rising from a raised cellar foundation, the dwelling nearly doubled in size three years later with the addition of a 1½-story wing to the west and an 8-foot-deep, enclosed shed addition on the north (rear) side. At the end of the Civil War, the house was substantially altered when an 18-foot-square outbuilding was moved to the east side of the house and connected via 5-foot, 6-inch-wide entrance bay added to the east (side) end of the original 1826 block. At the same time, the original block was raised to two full stories. In the late 19th or early 20th century, a 6-foot, 6-inch by 18-foot enclosed shed was added to the east wing’s east

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(side) wall and a large section of the north shed extension was converted into a porch. During the early 20th century, a new porch was built across the original block's south façade. During the late 20th century, much of the house's foundation was rebuilt, as were the fireplace openings. In 2017-2018, Cedar Lane underwent repairs and minor interior modifications to return the dwelling to active use.

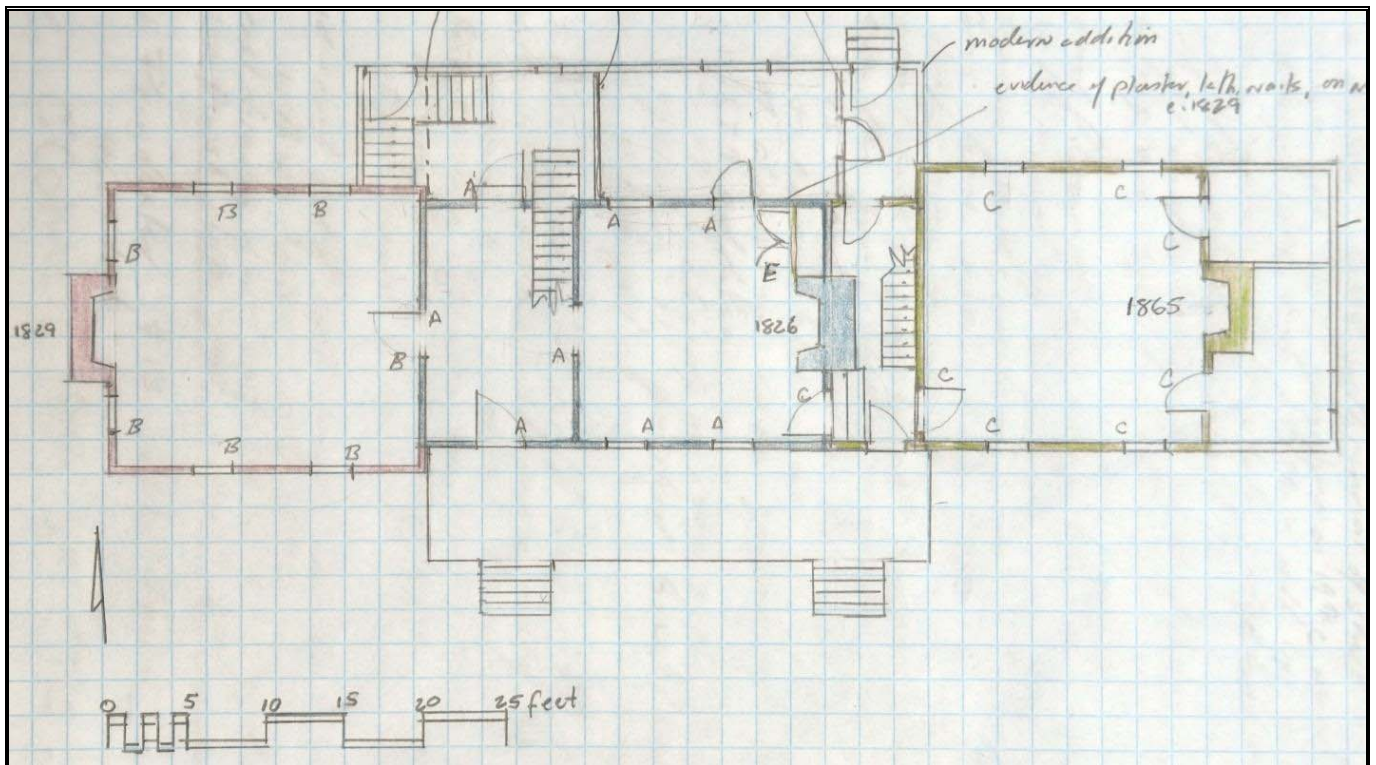


Figure 1. Floor Plan with Construction Dates. Prepared in 2017 by Carl Lounsbury.

Period I: 1826

Cedar Lane's earliest section dates to the beginning of the second quarter of the nineteenth century. Inscribed bricks just below the stepped shoulders in the center of the original 1:5 bond chimney on the east end of the house reveal the precise date of its construction. In neat lettering chiseled into four bricks, the bricklayer signed his work: "By T. Turner Novr' 1826." The 1:5 bonding pattern, combination of scribed and v-shaped mortar joints in the chimney, and the 1:3 brick bonding in the raised cellar that stretches the full length of the 26- by 16-foot side-passage house are characteristic of brickwork of this era.

The framing members of the house are hewn and pit sawn, and the cripple studs and split laths for the plaster are fastened with both wrought and square-headed cut nails, the combination of which can be found in Virginia buildings in the period between the 1810s and early 1830s. Brick nogging set in clay mortar fill some of the interstices between framing members in the partition wall separating the original

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side passage from the ground-floor entertaining room and in the lower sections of the north and south walls in that room.

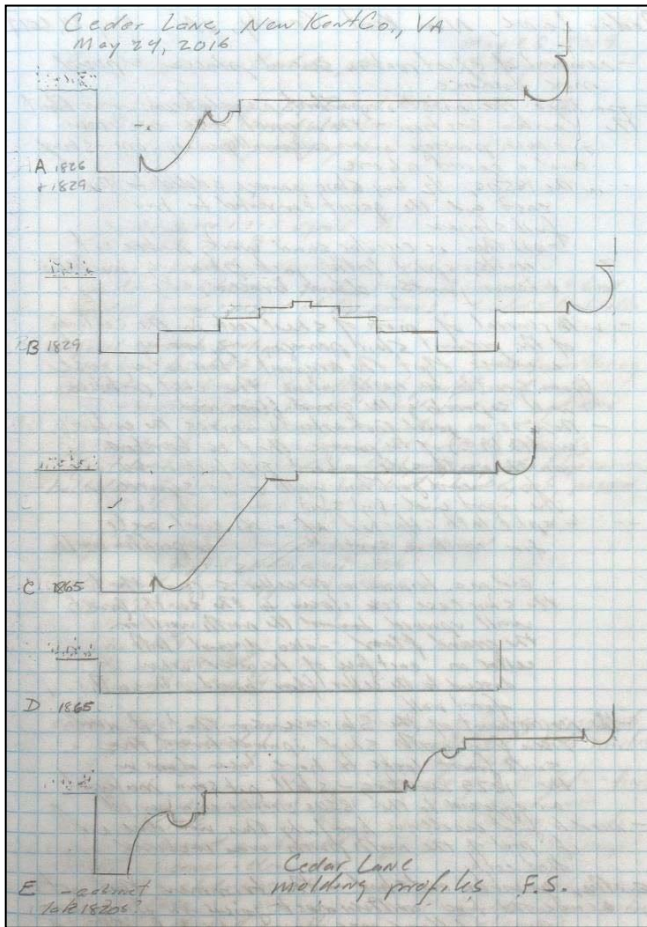


Figure 2. Architrave Profiles A, B, C, D, and E.
Prepared in 2017 by Carl Lounsbury.

The trim around the original door and window openings consists of a single architrave with a quirked ovolo back band with an astragal with a half-inch bead at the jamb (See architrave Type A at left in Figure 2 and on plan in Figure 1). The raised-panel doors are hung with butt hinges, but the one opening between the passage and original room has evidence of being hung earlier with HL side hinges.

The original floorplan consisted of a 9-foot, 7-inch wide side passage lit by transom lights over the front and rear doors. (The rear door transom has been heavily reworked and may be an insertion from c. 1829; the front transom may be as well.)

Much of the present staircase is original, but it was moved and reconfigured in Period II. It now rises from the back (north) shed room through the north wall in a straight run to the second floor. Although the original configuration of the stair is not entirely clear, it originally rose just inside the front doorway along the east side on the partition wall separating the passage from the room to the east. Evidence of its approximate location can be seen in the north-south trimmer in the cellar. The present doorway in the partition wall was moved about two feet northward from its original location in Period II when the staircase was rearranged. One of the

original doorposts is located 3 feet, 7 inches from the south wall. Toward the back of the passage, the upper level of the stair turned 90 degrees to the west and then back again to land along the outside west wall of the passage at the second-floor level.

In the northeast corner of the passage, a door beneath the staircase opened into a stair that descended to the cellar from north to south. That lower staircase was enclosed by a partition on its west side, as is evident in notches on the east side of a large joist that also has fragments of diagonally set lath on it from the enclosure. A trimmer in the ceiling at the foot of the cellar stair was cut at an angle to allow for head room at the bottom step.

The cellar originally served as storage space. Although the staircase was enclosed and plastered on its sides, there is no evidence that the cellar space was used for anything more than storage. The ceiling

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joists were simply whitewashed as were the brick walls. There is a surviving window frame in the west gable end cellar wall with diagonally-set horizontal bars (now sawn off or missing). The main cellar room was lit by a pair of similar unglazed barred openings on the north and south walls. The cellar was unheated, although there was a supporting arch for the fireplace above (rebuilt in the late twentieth century).



Figure 3. Chimneypiece with Neoclassical Detailing, 1815-1835.

The main floor consisted of a single 15-foot, 3-inch square room heated at the east gable end by a partially projecting chimney stack. The original secret or blind nailed Southern yellow pine floorboards survive and run the full length of the room from east to west. The chimneypiece is characteristic of the 1815-1835 period of Neoclassical detailing with flat pilasters, a three-part frieze with reeding, and a molded shelf with quirk moldings (Figure 3). The firebox itself was rebuilt in the late 20th century. The room was lit by two windows with single architraves on the south façade and two on the north wall. The easternmost window was originally directly

opposite the one on the south wall. (That aperture was shifted a foot westward and converted into a doorway in Period II and the western one closed

off and converted into shelving in the 20th century.) The walls and ceiling were plastered on split laths. Parts of the chairboard and base may be original but much of the woodwork, including the doorway into the room from the passage, was reworked in Period II.

The original second floor was replaced in 1865 when this section of the house was raised to two full stories, and a narrow half bay added at the east end to encompass the original exterior chimney. The original second floor was a garret with rafters rising from the wall plate of the main floor. The plan probably repeated that of the floor below with a stair passage and small heated upper room or chamber to the east lit by dormers. Within the knee walls, the width of the room was no more than 11 or 12 feet and the ceiling stood about 6 feet, 7 inches in height.

Period II: 1829

Three years after the construction of the side-passage house, Cedar Lane more than doubled in size with the construction of a story-and-a-half framed wing to the west and the addition of an 8-foot-wide enclosed shed room across the full length of the north (rear) side of the original house. Once again, the date of this expansion is inscribed on the exterior chimney erected on the west gable end of the new wing. Probably imitating the work of his predecessor, the bricklayer carved "By Barnet Rice Nov. 1829" in a recessed panel of bricks between the stepped shoulders of the chimney, which was laid in

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fluctuating bonding patterns ranging from three to seven consecutive rows of stretchers between a course of headers.



Figure 4. First Floor, 1829 Wing.

(Figure 3) across the passage with a three-part frieze resting on recessed pilasters and a shelf supported by a band of quirked Greek moldings.

Because the new wing was a story-and-a-half in height, the heated garret room over the ground-floor entertaining room had more space and height than the 1826 garret across the passage. Four dormers, two on the front and two on the back, lit the upstairs chamber. Access to this room was by way of a pair of steps down to the floor in the original upstairs passage.



Figure 5. Staircase Rising from Shed Room to Garrett.

With a raised cellar to match the original, the new wing was 20-feet long and 2 feet deeper (18 feet, 4 inches) than the original section. Like the original house, the wing was insulated with brick nogging. The ground-floor room was well lit with a pair of windows on the north and south sides as well as a window on each side of the chimney. This was the largest room in the house and became the principal entertaining space, evident in the elaborate symmetrical Greek Revival moldings with corner blocks around the entrance door and the six windows (see

Architrave Type B, Figure 2). The chimneypiece is similar in form to the one in the 1826 room

The addition of the west wing precipitated alterations to the original house. Foremost was the reconfiguration of the staircase in the passage. Whatever the arrangement of the original porch on the back of the house (there was also one on the front as well to provide access to the front door), it was expanded and enclosed to incorporate a large 8-foot deep room that ran the full length of the original house. (Several framing members that supported the flooring of the shed space survive). The old stair carriage was reused and reworked to form a straight run that rose in the shed room toward the front of the house in a north to south direction (Figure 5). The staircase landed in the original garret passage along the east partition wall. The original staircase to the cellar that had been in the northeast corner of the ground-floor passage was removed and the opening was floored over. These new floorboards have a deeper undercutting on their underside than the original ones that survived in the passage and the ground-floor room to the east. With the removal of

the interior staircase to the cellar, access below stairs was by way of an exterior cellar entrance (now enclosed) in the northeast of the north wall

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of the west wing where it abutted the original corner of the 1826 cellar.

The rearrangement of the staircase as a straight flight meant that the carpenters could move the position of the original doorway into the east ground-floor room two feet to the north so that it was nearly centered in the passage and opposite the doorway into the ground-floor entertaining room in the new wing. Any windows that may have lit the west gable end of the original side passage were covered over and the room replastered.

The newly built rear shed room was lathed and plastered. Evidence of the lath nails and some lath still survive beneath later weatherboards that were added around 1900 when the space was converted into an open porch. To provide additional access to this back shed room, the easternmost window on the north (rear) wall of the original 1826 room was removed and a doorway constructed about a foot to the west of the original window. This doorway has the same Type A trim around it as that found through the rest of the original room (Figure 2). The door opens to a step down into the shed room. If it had been an original doorway, it would have opened into the room from the porch rather than vice versa. The north outer wall of this shed room was rebuilt in the 20th c. after it had been opened earlier so evidence for the placement of windows and possibly an exterior door has been lost.

With the new west ground-floor room serving as the principal entertaining room or parlor, the old 1826 ground-floor room to the east of the passage was converted into a dining room with the addition of a built-in buffet or china closet in the northeast corner between the chimney breast and the north wall of the room. For the buffet moldings, see Type E (Figure 2).

Period III: 1865

The date of the third major building campaign at Cedar Lane is not as boldly stated as the first two but appears in ephemeral scribbles on the plasterwork above the second-floor fireplace in the 1826 section. The combination of materials, stylistic details, and construction technology point to the third quarter of the nineteenth century, which is borne out by two penciled inscriptions on the plasterwork: "Pulled the House top off Sep 24, 1[plaster fragment flaked off];" and another more completely intact, "Pull the top off Sept 24, 1865." Whether brought on by war damage or a change in family dynamics, the owner of the house hired workmen to remove the garret story of the original 1826 section of the house, which was "pulled off" on September 24, 1865. Because the house would have deteriorated if left exposed without a roof, the house was immediately repaired and expanded in weeks following the demolition of the original roof and garret rooms.

A major element in this postwar renovation was the expansion of the house to the east. The owner moved a one-story, 18-foot, 6-inch by 18-foot pre-existing frame building to the east side of the house where he connected it to a new 5-foot, 6-inch-wide entry and stair passage on the east side of the original 1826 section of the house, incorporating the original exterior chimney within this narrow space. After he had workmen tear down the garret room and passage over the 1826 section, they erected a full second story covered by a common-rafter room that also extended over the new, two-story half-bay to the east. The old plasterwork above the chimney that contained the graffiti was covered over by a

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furred-out wall above the fireplace.

Although the framing of the re-used east wing is hewn and pit sawn and beaded weatherboards are secured with mature cut nails (indicative of a post-1815 date), the new half-bay passage, the rebuilt second floor over the 1826 section, and the roof that covers both spaces are built with timbers cut by a circular saw. The second story was added by laying a sill or girt on top of the original plate. Carpenters then raised a new wall frame on top of it, capped by a plate and false plate. The framing has down braces and the studs are mortised into the new plate. The roof has a ridge board, a feature that gained wider currency in the second half of the 19th century. Although the framing featured modern circular sawn timbers, workmen continued to use old technology as well, installing hand-planed materials in the stair carriage, door, and window architraves ((see Type D, Figure 2), and hand-crafted doors rather than factory-produced ones that would become ubiquitous on building sites in Virginia from the 1870s onward.

It is not entirely clear why this addition with the second staircase was created, perhaps to accommodate an extended family under a single roof after some misfortune wrought by the war. What this expansion did do was to create two distinct apartments. The expanded house now had two separate entrances on the south façade. The present porch dates from the early twentieth century, but it is easy to imagine that it replaced an earlier one of a similar configuration to accommodate the two entrance doors. The new east door opened into a narrow stair passage. Inside the passage, two steps to the left led up to a doorway cut into the original section of the house.



Figure 6. First-Floor Room in East Addition.

Just opposite these steps, a door led into a large room with a gable end chimney (1:5 to 1:7 bonding) (Figure 6). The door into the room was a two-panel Greek Revival variety and the door surround and the single architrave trim around the four windows (two on the front and two on the back wall) consisted of a backband with a quirked flat Greek ovolo (see Type C, Figure 2). This room may have served as a parlor or chamber for one set of extended family members or an individual who occupied the eastern part of the house. The room was heated by a fireplace at the east end. The mantel with its three-part unmolded frieze is a simpler

version of those installed in earlier parts of the house. The east wing attic with its hewn and pit sawn common rafter roof framing is unfinished and inaccessible except through a small opening high in the east wall of the stair passage.

An awkwardly arranged, steep and narrow staircase runs the length of the east wall of the new passage

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before it turns west at the second-floor level and rises a few additional steps to a doorway cut through the old wall just north of the chimney (Figure 7). This door opens into a bedchamber in the reconstructed second floor of the 1826 section. The area below the staircase was not enclosed at the time and there was no back door at the north end of the passage.



Figure 7. Staircase in the 1865 East Addition.

All the trim in this second-floor bedchamber was modest, consisting of Type D unmolded architraves around the doors and windows (Figure 2). The doors are raised four-panel doors with iron rim locks that have porcelain knobs (Figure 8). Some of the doors are secured by two-knuckle raising hinges, which are often employed when the floor is carpeted. On the south side of the old chimney is a small storage closet built over the south end of the stair passage. The floorboards in the room are laid on top of the old 1826 garret floor.

If the house was divided into two households, the older section of the house retained its old configuration except for the raising of the second story of the 1826 section, of which the bedchamber with its new staircase appears to have been associated with the eastern apartment. The unmolded architraves found in the rebuilt second-story bedchamber over the dining room continued in the west second-floor passage. No changes were made to the second-floor chamber in the west wing except for a new unmolded architrave around the doorway from the

Period IV: Late 19th – Early 20th Century
 At various times at the end of the 19th century and early 20th century, Cedar Lane underwent additional changes. The most significant of these modifications included the addition of a 6-foot, 6-inch-wide by 18-foot-deep shed along the east side of the east wing. This may have replaced earlier closets that were perhaps as deep as the east chimney.

Scars of shelving survive on the north side of the 1865 gable-end chimney. Doors into the two shed rooms on either side of the fireplace are refitted two-panel Greek Revival doors that were reused when the shed was



Figure 8. Second-Floor Bedchamber in 1865 Addition.

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added. The framing consisted of circular sawn timbers. The studs are mortised into the plate and were covered by lath secured by cut nails and later replaced by a second generation of lath held with wire nails and covered with plaster.

The large enclosed north shed room erected in 1829, which stretched across the length of the original 1826 section of the house, also was subdivided. A partition wall running from north to south was erected just east of the lower part of the staircase. The partition was left exposed on the west side and enclosed with weatherboards on the east face. East of this new partition, the exterior shed wall was removed to create an open porch that extended eastward to the end of the 1826 section of the house. The lath and plaster that had covered the original north wall of the 1826 block were removed or covered over with circular sawn weatherboards secured with wire nails. Posts were installed along the north edge of the new open porch, all of which were replaced by the subsequent re-enclosing of this space in the mid- to late-20th century.

Also during the early 20th century, a new front porch was constructed. This porch appeared in a 1937 photograph of the house that appeared in an issue of the *William and Mary Quarterly*. The hipped-roof porch featured 4 tapered wood columns and a wood deck. Two sets of brick steps, one leading to each front entrance, access the porch (these likely were rebuilt at the same time as the house's foundations were during the late 20th century).

Period V: Late 20th century repairs and alterations

During the late 20th century, the foundations were altered and some modern conveniences added to Cedar Lane. Most conspicuous was the replacement of the foundations around the east wing of the house. Concrete masonry blocks were added beneath the rear shed. In the interior, all of the fireplace openings were rebuilt. In the cellar beneath the west wing, a new masonry floor was installed and the lower parts of the walls encased in a brick veneer. The north shed was underpinned with concrete block and extended westward so that it enclosed an exterior entrance as well as the stairs that descended to the cellar. Those steps to the cellar from the rear north shed were rebuilt. Bathrooms were installed in the shed and in the upstairs passage. A kitchen was installed in the rear shed addition once it was enclosed a second time. A small addition was added to the east end of the original shed with a door to the outside. New window sash and doors were also installed in the shed.

Period VI: 2017-2018 Rehabilitation

In 2017-2018, the house again underwent repairs and alterations as it was brought back to active use as a residence. The existing early 20th century metal roofing was substantially replaced with cedar shingles, wooden elements on the porches were repaired, and a new wooden railing was added to the front porch. The non-historic window sash were removed from the north enclosed porch/shed room and replaced with 1/1 wooden sashes. A new set of double wooden doors was added to the north porch/shed room to provide northward egress. The late-20th century masonry block foundation infill under the north (rear) porch/shed room and west wing was replaced with brick piers. Wooden 4/4 slider sash windows were inserted into existing basement openings, and where existing frames indicated vents with wooden bars, a

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clear glass panel was inserted to seal the opening while retaining the historic material.

The space under the east wing staircase was enclosed as a powder room, with sink and toilet added along with a modern wooden door. Another full bath was added in the existing closet at the top of the east wing stairs.

The late 20th century kitchen in the ground level rooms was removed and partition walls associated with that kitchen removed. The late 20th-century wooden staircase to the cellar from the rear north shed was replaced by a similar wooden stair with a more forgiving tread/riser profile. Throughout the basement, new concrete flooring was installed with a joint to avoid contact with the brick foundation walls. Other general repairs included replastering, surface treatments (paint, stain), repair and reglazing of existing wooden windows, improvements to existing bathrooms, and removal of the late 19th century brick façade in the 1826 section's second-floor bedroom to expose the 1826 plaster surface and 1865 pencil notes.

Section 8. Statement of Significance

Period of Significance

1826–1865

Significant Dates

1829

1865

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

Although documentary evidence summarized in Cedar Lane's 2016 National Register nomination indicated that there was an 18th-century house located on this property owned by the Poindexter family, further investigation has shown that building no longer stands. The earliest section of the present building on this site dates to 1826. Inscribed on bricks just below the stepped shoulders in the center of the original 1:5 bond chimney on the east end of the side passage house is the date "Novr' 1826" and analysis of the brickwork as well as internal structural members, construction methods, and interior architectural detailing confirms this as the dwelling's correct construction date. Cedar Lane's period of significance, therefore, is revised to begin in 1826, coinciding with construction of the dwelling's earliest section. Significant dates are 1829 and 1865, each of which is associated with significant architectural changes to expand and update the dwelling. Locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, Cedar Lane embodies significant vernacular construction methods and materials as well as trends in evolution of rural domestic architecture in New Kent County during the middle two quarters of the 19th century.

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Section 11. Form Prepared By

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