

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of PropertyHistoric name: Bear GardenOther names/site number: 050-0005

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. LocationStreet & number: 1202 Calno RoadCity or town: Hanover State: VA County: King WilliamNot For Publication: ☐ NA ☒ X Vicinity: ☒ X**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

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

I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility 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.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

 A B X C D

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government

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4. 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
☐ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private: ☒
- Public – Local ☐
- Public – State ☐
- Public – Federal ☐

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s) ☒
- District ☐
- Site ☐
- Structure ☐
- Object ☐

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal
MID 19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD, BRICK, METAL

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Bear Garden is a 230-acre farm located in a rural area of southwestern King William County not far from the Hanover and Caroline County lines. The house at Bear Garden is a one-story frame dwelling that was built in three separate historic building campaigns. There is much conjecture over the date of construction of the original house, a one-room, side-passage plan with integral shed room on the east end, but it appears to have been built in the late-eighteenth or early-nineteenth century. A one-room addition was built onto the passage side by 1850, creating the existing single-pile, central-passage plan house. The last addition, a rear ell, was constructed sometime between 1896 and 1901. The only historic outbuilding to survive is a smokehouse.

Narrative Description

Setting

Bear Garden is located on a ridge above the Pamunkey River flood plain about one mile southeast of Calno, a little over a mile southwest of colonial-era Mangohick, and five miles northeast of Hanover Courthouse. King William County lies between the Pamunkey and Mattaponi Rivers on the coastal plain of Virginia. Bear Garden is located in a rural area of King William County that is characterized today by large farms interspersed with small lot

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development along the roads. The Bear Garden house is remote and sits almost in the middle of a 230-acre tract about three-fourths of a mile east of the nearest road, Calno Road. The house faces south toward a road shown on the 1865 Gilmer maps that ran east/west in front of the house but is no longer extant. The early entrance lane approached the house from the west along the now-vanished road and was lined with cedars that have now grown together. This lane was abandoned because large farm equipment could no longer navigate the narrow drive. The house is currently reached by a long and winding gravel drive that approaches the front of the house from the south.

The house is surrounded by large trees including an ancient redbud, two large chestnut trees, cedars, a locust, and an old maple tree. Boxwoods were planted around the house in the mid-twentieth century by the then-owner Mary W. Flickinger and have since grown significantly.¹ The large boxwoods that line the brick sidewalk to the front porch have almost grown together. Boxwoods also flank the shed-room entrance on the front. The rest of the property is either in cultivation, forested, or open for a horse-boarding facility.

Inventory

House	Late 18th/early 19th century	Contributing Building
Smokehouse	Mid-19th century	Contributing Building

Building (Contributing)

House, late-18th or early-19th century

This is a one story, five-bay, single-pile, frame house with an integral, single-bay, shed-roof extension on the eastern end that was built in three separate historic campaigns. There is a modern, one-story addition on the rear of the rear ell. Beaded weatherboards are found on the eastern four bays, which is the original house. The western addition has plain weatherboards, as does the rear ell. The house sits on a parged brick foundation and has a gable roof and two interior-end brick chimneys. There is a three-bay, hipped-roof front porch with paired square posts and a railing on each side with a brick floor on a brick foundation. The front doorway has a batten door with architrave trim and is topped by a four-light transom. The exterior door into the shed room is also a batten door. The windows are currently nine-over-nine-light sash on the main floor with louvered shutters. A ca. 1938 photograph shows that the façade's first-floor windows were two-over-two-light windows at that time.² As late as 1987, the first-floor windows continued to be two-over-two-light sash while the dormer windows were nine-over-six light sash, but when the house was renovated at that time, the window sash were changed to

¹ Mary Whitley Flickinger, "Description of Bear Garden," manuscript, n.d. In possession of the current owner.

² T. Pape, "Old Houses in James City and King William Counties," *William & Mary Quarterly* 18, no. 3 (July, 1938), n.p. The article, which consists of photographs of houses, credits R. M. Allyn as photographer. Allyn was the photographer for the State Conservation and Development Commission. The Commission was established in 1927. Brent Tarter, "Hamilton James Eckenrode (1879–1952)," *Dictionary of Virginia Biography*, Library of Virginia (1998–), published 2015 (http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/dvb/bio.asp?b=Eckenrode_Hamilton_James, accessed Oct. 18, 2023).

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nine-over-nine lights on the first floor.³ Three pedimented, gable-roofed dormers pierce the gable roof, front and rear: two on the original house and one on the western addition, front and rear. The house originally had five dormers on the front and rear, but one dormer was removed on both the eastern and western ends of the house on both the front and rear. Evidence of the missing dormers is visible on the interior. The ca. 1938 photograph shows only three dormers on the façade, indicating that the other dormers were removed prior to that date. The roof is now sheathed with wooden shingles that replaced the standing-seam metal roof shown in the photograph. Both brick chimney stacks are almost square, laid in common bond, and have corbelled caps. A one-story, frame, gable-roofed rear ell was added sometime between 1896 and 1901 to house a kitchen and dining room. It has an interior brick chimney flue. According to previous owner, Mary Flickinger, Lewis Moren, who owned the Bear Garden between 1877 and his death in 1923, added both the rear ell and the front porch.⁴ In 2024, an addition to the end of the rear ell was built to house a laundry room/bathroom and sitting area.

The entire foundation is now parged. The ca. 1938 photograph shows the foundation prior to being parged and the foundation of the western part of the house is laid in English bond.⁵ The bond on the eastern section is not readable in the photograph, however, some of the parging is missing at the front western corner of the house and appears to reveal Flemish bond on the façade. The side appears to have a coursed bond but there is not enough of the brick visible on the side to make a definitive judgment about the foundation bond on the western addition.⁶

The house was built in three stages. The four eastern bays comprise the earliest section of the house, which has a one-room, side-passage plan with the integral one-bay shed room extension. This section of the house has an English bond foundation and there is no break in the foundation between the main block and the shed-roof section, indicating that the shed room is original to the house.⁷ The interior basement walls of this section are parged, but the chimney base is laid in English bond on the north and south ends and eastern side. The western side of the chimney is parged. The basement entrance is located on the shed-room end and is sheltered by a brick pent that is shown in the ca. 1938 photograph.

A study on eighteenth-century houses in King William County included Bear Garden and indicated that this section of the house could have been built as early as the late-eighteenth century but could also have been built in the early nineteenth century. The study also noted that while English bond brickwork was generally not employed after the American Revolution,

³ The two-over-two-light windows are visible in photographs submitted to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) with a Preliminary Information Form for Bear Garden (050-0005). On file at the VDHR archives, Richmond, Virginia.

⁴ Julia Todd Henley, "The Eighteenth-Century Dwelling-Houses of King William County, Virginia (M.A. Thesis, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, 1979), 205.

⁵ Pape, "Old Houses."

⁶ The Henley thesis (page 36) posits the façade foundation of the western addition is laid in Flemish bond while the side is common bond.

⁷ Henley, "Eighteenth Century Dwelling Houses," 36. The basement walls of the original house are now parged and the continuation of the foundation can no longer be seen. When Henley studied the house in the late 1970s, this was not the case, and the foundation was visible from the basement.

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English bond was used in King William County into the nineteenth century.⁸ In adjacent Hanover County, a fairly comprehensive architectural survey in 1990 identified only two examples of English bond foundations and three examples of English bond chimneys. All examples were located in the eastern end of the county, which was the earliest to be settled, and like King William, is located in the coastal plain geographic region of Virginia.⁹ The study on eighteenth-century King William County houses also noted that it is difficult to date houses built between 1780 and 1820 because there was no obvious break in building practices or styles at the end of the eighteenth century.¹⁰

The next section of the house appears to have been built in the first half of the nineteenth century. The western room was added onto the passage side of the original house, which created a single-pile, central-passage plan. The exterior of the foundation of this block appears to be laid in Flemish bond, although now mostly parged, while the interior basement walls are laid in English bond. The foundation walls of this section are butted up against the original house, not toothed into the original foundation, and unaligned by several inches. A dip on the roof ridge corresponds to the change in the foundation between the original house and this addition. The basement chimney in this section is laid in English bond on the sides. The front of the chimney has been reworked to decrease the size of the fire box opening, making it difficult to determine the original bond. An unusual feature of the western room is the small, rectangular, unglazed openings on both the first and second floors of the closets that flank the interior-end chimney. The openings are not large enough for a common size window and are covered on the exterior by a wooden panel with T-hinges.

The next section of the house to be built was the one-story, two-room, rear ell, which adjoins the center passage creating a T-shape house. Land tax books suggest it was built between 1896 and 1901. It is frame, with a wood shingle gable roof and has an interior brick chimney flue. The addition originally sat on brick piers, but infill has been added to create a continuous foundation. The only exterior entrance to the addition is located on the eastern side of the rear room. A one-bay, gable-roof porch on a brick foundation shelters this entrance. The windows are now six-over-six light sash windows and were installed during the Flickinger ownership.

The interior of the house features a variety of woodwork and styles characteristic of a house that has evolved over many years. The batten front door is off center on the front wall of what is now the center passage and is almost immediately adjacent to the partition wall with the original main first-floor room. It aligns, however, with the rear door to the passage, allowing room for the winder stair that rises on the western passage wall and back wall of the original house. The staircase is a closed-string stair with square pegged newels, a molded handrail, and balusters, rectangular in section. The wall below the stair is paneled with beaded diagonal boards. The door on the stair wall to the basement is a short six-raised-panel door. The passage doors to the flanking rooms are both six-raised-panel doors with architrave trim. All the woodwork in the passage is stained except for the stair balusters, which are painted.

⁸ Ibid, 194.

⁹ Land and Community Associates, "Survey of Historic Resources, Hanover County, Virginia," 1990, 13.

¹⁰ Henley, "Eighteenth Century Dwelling Houses," xvii.

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The doors and windows in the original first-floor room, now used as a dining room, have architrave trim and the base is a simple board with bead on top. The floors are original hardwood. The hall doorway has HL hinges and has raised panels on both sides of the door. All woodwork in the room is painted. The mantel has plain pilasters and frieze with a simple shelf and a brick hearth. It appears to be a replacement mantel that matches the mantel in the western room.

The adjacent shed extension has been divided into two rooms. The larger of the two rooms contains an exterior batten door with beaded vertical boards and one window on the east end of the house. A mantel is also located in this room. While plain, it appears to be the earliest mantel in the house and features plain pilasters and frieze and a convex Roman quarter round with recessed fillet to support the mantelshelf. This mantel is stained. The smaller north room has been converted into a bathroom with the closet adjacent to the chimney opening into the bathroom. The rear four-light window that illuminates this closet has plain board trim. Both the door from the dining room into the shed room and the closet door are four panel doors with raised panels on one side and flat panels on the other side. Both doors have thin, plain board trim. The room door has HL hinges.

The western room was added on the passage side of Bear Garden likely in the second quarter of the nineteenth century. This addition created a single-pile, central-passage-plan house. When repairs to the house were undertaken by Mary Flickinger in the mid-twentieth century, she discovered that the western one-room addition had brick nogging—brick infill between the framing members. Brick nogging provided insulation in the frame and structural rigidity. Brick nogging was not meant to be seen and was covered with weatherboard or other types of sheathing on the exterior and plaster on the interior. Brick nogging generally was used from the late eighteenth century to the 1840s. The western addition has a combination of Federal- and Greek Revival-style woodwork with Greek Revival trim on several of the windows. The center passage door has HL hinges with flat panels on the room side and raised panels on the passage side. A notable feature of the western addition are the closets that flank the interior-end chimney on both the first and second floors. Both first-floor closet doors are stained, with six-raised-panels on the room side and flat panels on the closet side, and a simple architrave door frame. Both doors also have HL hinges. The exterior end openings have been covered in both closets, although they are still visible from the exterior. This room has a low baseboard with bead on top. The mantel in this room is the same as that in the east room.

The upper floor has a short hall at the top of the stairs to access the bedrooms on either side of a central bathroom that has been inserted at the front of the house. All of the woodwork on the upper floors is simple and painted. All hall doors are four-raised-panel on the hall side with flat panels on the room side. The room doors have HL hinges. The east room, which is in the original part of the house, has a segmental-arch firebox opening but only a simple shelf above the opening. The baseboard on this wall ends shy of the fireplace opening, indicating that at one time this fireplace may have had a mantel. The western room fireplace also has a segmental-arch opening with visible bricks and a very plain mantel. Two, short, six-panel doors access the closets on either side of the chimney. Unlike the room below, the exterior openings in the

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closet on the western wall remain and are unglazed and covered on the interior with batten panels. These small openings on both floors of the western wall are thought to be original or early to the western addition.

The rear ell, added in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, contains two rooms. The room adjacent to the original house was likely used as a dining room and the rear room still serves as the kitchen. There is an exterior entrance into the eastern side of the rear ell.

The basement has the same plan as the first floor: one room on either side of a central passage. A set of steep stairs from the first floor is located in the central passage and according to a previous owner, a later addition. The stairwell also allows a small part of the framing to be visible including a guttered corner post, down braces, and split lathe for the western room plaster. In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, guttered or L-shaped corner posts were found in substantially framed houses.¹¹ The basement walls in the passage and eastern rooms, which was the original house, are parged and the floor is concrete. The basement walls in the western room are painted brick laid on the interior in English bond, and the floor is unpainted brick and appears to be a later addition. The basement ceiling joists are a mixture of hewn and pit sawn timbers. The exterior basement entrance is into the shed-room basement.

In 1987, the then-owner Glenn Johnson hired Richmond architect John Lewis to update the house. It was probably at this time that the first-floor window sash was changed from the two-over-two-light sash to the current nine-over-nine-light sash. In 2024, the current owner built a three-bay, gable-roof addition onto the end of the rear ell. This addition also has an exterior entrance and a larger porch to shelter the entrance.¹²

Bear Garden is an evolved late-eighteenth-century farm dwelling. Besides the historic additions, the house has been renovated over the years to include modern amenities such as bathrooms and an updated kitchen. The building's existing irregularities and anachronisms should be recognized as part of its distinctive character. While the house has been renovated for comfortable contemporary use, it was done without compromising its historic character. Bear Garden retains the integrity of its historic location, association, setting, feeling, design, materials, and workmanship.

Building (Contributing)

Smokehouse, mid-19th century

A single-story, frame smokehouse stands about eighty feet to the northeast, slightly to the rear of the house. It sits on a low, poured concrete foundation. It is sheathed with plain weatherboards with corner boards and has a pyramidal roof sheathed with wood shingles. It has a batten door.

¹¹ Dell Upton, "Early Vernacular Architecture in Southeastern Virginia" (Ph.D. dissertation, Brown University, 1979) 74, Paul Buchanan, "The Eighteenth-Century Frame Houses of Tidewater Virginia" in Charles E. Peterson, ed., *Building Early America*. The Carpenters' Company of the City and County of Philadelphia (Radnor, PA: Chilton Book Company, 1976), 63–64.

¹² Personal communication with current owner, Elizabeth Conner Flippen, March 26, 2025.

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The interior features large corner posts, down braces, and a king post truss roof. The roof sheathing boards are black from smoke.

Archaeological Potential

Although no archaeological investigations have been undertaken at Bear Garden, potential to yield information regarding the architectural evolution of the dwelling, occupation of the property, and possibly agricultural operations presumably exists. The early road that ran east/west in front of the dwelling and corresponding entrance lane are no longer extant. The location of the road and lane could be examined for landscape features and cultural deposits. Due to the number of recorded enslaved individuals and agricultural output, along with the extant smokehouse, an archaeological investigation could uncover whether any additional 18th and 19th century building and/or structural remnants exist. In the absence of such studies, however, there is insufficient data available to support National Register Criterion D for Archaeology.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☐ A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- ☐ B. Removed from its original location
- ☐ C. A birthplace or grave
- ☐ D. A cemetery
- ☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- ☐ F. A commemorative property
- ☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

ca. 1796 – ca. 1901

Significant Dates

ca. 1796

ca. 1851

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Bear Garden is located at 1202 Calno Road in King William County, Virginia. The present dwelling was constructed in several stages. The first probably occurred near the end of the eighteenth century, perhaps between 1796, when John Temple (1768–1814) married Alice Taylor, a daughter of Richard Squire Taylor, and 1800, when Taylor deeded 341 acres of his property to John Temple. The first phase of construction produced a one-story, single-pile, one-room, side-passage-plan frame dwelling with a shed extension. Perhaps about 1851, subsequent owner John P. Stevens built a one-room addition to the other side of the passage, thereby creating a central-passage plan. At the end of the nineteenth century, owner Lewis W. Moren constructed a one-story T-shaped addition on the rear of the house. After Moren's death in 1923, his heirs sold the property in 1941 to B. Floyd and Mary Whitley Flickinger; she resided there until her death in 1985. Her son and heir, Carl Malmquist, sold Bear Garden in 1986 to Glenn Johnson, who in turn sold it to The Carey Company, owned by the Conner family. The current owner, Elizabeth Conner Flippen, inherited the tract.

Bear Garden is locally significant as a dwelling constructed in phases between the end of the eighteenth century and the turn of the twentieth century. The Period of Significance extends from ca. 1796, when the first part of Bear Garden was constructed, to ca. 1901, when Lewis W. Moren may have built a two-room addition to the rear of the house. Bear Garden is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the local level of significance, as an evolved late-eighteenth-century farm dwelling. Bear Garden retains the integrity of its historic location, association, setting, feeling, design, materials, and workmanship.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Historical Background

The farm on which the Bear Garden house is located presently consists of several adjoining tracts totaling approximately 365 acres of farmland in King William County, Virginia. The house is sited in approximately the center of the upper, and largest, tract of 230.7 acres. The nominated area is 1.9 acres immediately surrounding the house. King William County is in Tidewater Virginia between two rivers named for local Virginia Indian tribes: the Pamunkey River (southwest) and the Mattaponi River (northeast). New Kent County lies south of the Pamunkey River, and King and Queen County, from which King William County was formed in 1701, lies north of the Mattaponi. King William County's terrain is lightly rolling, thickly wooded, and drains mostly south and east. Settled and farmed for more than three centuries, the county remains very rural with small pockets of development.

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The county seat, King William, contains a handful of modern government office buildings and a new courthouse. The original courthouse, believed to have been constructed about 1725, stands nearby. Unfortunately, that courthouse and clerk's office suffered several fires that destroyed all but a handful of county records, with an especially devastating fire occurring in 1885. King William County is therefore one of Virginia's several "burned-record counties." There exist no surviving deeds, wills, suit papers, court order books, or other local records typically found at courthouses between 1701 and that date, except for a dozen volumes of charred documents of various sorts. To reconstruct the history of the county and its dwellings, researchers must use duplicate records that have survived elsewhere, such as the state Auditor of Public Accounts' copies of county land and personal property tax books (which begin in 1782) and federal records including the U.S. Census of inhabitants, slaves, agricultural products, and industries for certain years. The county land tax books typically contain the owners' names, property acreage, bearing and distance from the courthouse, adjacent owners' names, and taxes levied. Beginning in 1820, they also contain a calculation of the value of buildings (if any) on the property, as well as a column for comments and explanations of changes in value or transfers of real estate. A conscientious assessor would, for example, typically explain a rise or decline in the value of buildings as being the result of "new construction" or "loss by fire." Unfortunately, King William County's assessors were not as conscientious (as was the case in some other counties as well) and as a result, the building values increased, declined, or even dropped to zero without explanation. A researcher must read between the lines and use genealogical and other records to fill in the gaps.¹³

Richard Squire Taylor, the first owner of the tract on which the Bear Garden dwelling sits, who is identifiable from the land tax and personal property tax books, was born in New Kent County in 1732. By 1762, he was a justice on the King William County Court, and in 1776, he represented the county in the Virginia House of Delegates. He married Anne Meaux (1736–1787) in King William County in 1768. Taylor and his wife had five or more children, of whom at least three survived to adulthood: Richard Taylor (1769–1805), Elizabeth Taylor (1775–died after 1805), and Alice Taylor (1780–1822). Richard Squire Taylor died in King William County in 1806, sometime between June 11, when he signed a deed, and October 27, 1806, when his will was presented to the county court for probate.¹⁴

In 1782, the first year in which taxes were assessed on personal property and real estate, Taylor owned 1,283 acres in King William County and paid taxes on 52 enslaved persons, 14 horses and mules, 60 cattle, and a "post chaise and chair." Comparing his personal property to that of other

¹³ Library of Virginia, "Lost Records Localities: Counties and Cities with Missing Records," *Research Notes Number 30*, p. 3, on Library of Virginia website, https://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/rn30_lostrecords.pdf, accessed Jan. 26, 2023. The first two paragraphs of the Historical Background are adapted from those in Ashley M. Neville and John S. Salmon, "Cherry Grove," DHR File No. 050–5115, National Register of Historic Places Form, Sept. 5, 2023, Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR), Richmond, VA.

¹⁴ Ida Johnson Lee, "Taylor Family of King William Co., VA.," *Genealogies of Virginia Families from the William and Mary College Quarterly* 4 (Jan. 1934), 802–805, Ancestry.com website, accessed Sept. 24, 2023; Cynthia Miller Leonard, comp., *The General Assembly of Virginia, July 30, 1619–January 11, 1978: A Bicentennial Register of Members* (Richmond: Virginia State Library, 1978), 123; "Taylor, Richard Squire (1732–1806), Family Tree," FamilySearch website, www.familysearch.org/tree/person/print-view/MGVX-6S8, accessed Sept. 24, 2023.

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taxpayers, he was clearly one of the county's wealthiest men at that time. In 1787, Taylor was taxed for 1,463 acres, having increased his holdings in 1785 with 180 acres purchased from Robert Cowne.¹⁵

When some of Taylor's heirs presented his will for probate in the county court on October 27, 1806, the court refused to accept it because other parties claimed that Taylor was not of sound mind when he wrote it. Some of the heirs appealed the decision to the District Court, and when that court overturned it (directing the county court to proceed to probate), other heirs appealed the ruling to the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia under the title *Temple and Taylor vs. Temple*. The full names of the parties to the suit, as well as the names of the witnesses cited, are not stated in the appeals court record. According to some witnesses, Taylor became despondent after the death of his eldest son, Richard Taylor, in 1805, and periodically overindulged in "opium" (probably the popular drug laudanum, a popular opium-and-alcohol-based painkiller) as well as "ardent spirits." Yet, according to other witnesses, he often conversed and corresponded "very sensibly." Taylor's will, which he wrote himself, was imperfect by legal standards but was sufficiently correct in its composition, in the opinion of the judges, that they agreed unanimously that he had been "competent to make a will." On October 24, 1807, the Supreme Court of Appeals upheld the ruling of the District Court that the will should be "admitted to record."¹⁶

John Temple, Taylor's son-in-law, may have been among the parties to the suit, although it is not known for sure or which side he might have been on. He was born on April 14, 1768, a son of Colonel Samuel Temple (1742–1798), of Caroline County, and married Alice Taylor (1780–1822), a daughter of Richard Squire Taylor and Ann Meaux, on December 22, 1796. John Temple, like Alice Taylor, came from a prominent and wealthy family. Samuel Temple had served in the Revolutionary War in the Caroline County militia, first in Captain John Minor's company, and then, in 1777, as the captain of his own company. He was promoted to the rank of major in 1780. Subsequently, at an unknown date, he was recommended for the rank of

¹⁵ Lee, "Taylor Family," 805; "Post Chaise," Britannica website, <https://www.britannica.com/technology/post-chaise>, accessed Jan. 20, 2024; "Chaise," *ibid.*, <https://www.britannica.com/technology/chaise>; "Phaeton," *ibid.*, <https://www.britannica.com/technology/phaeton-carriage>. A post chaise was a fast, small carriage that typically seated two to four people and was drawn by two or four horses. A chair (from the French word chaise) was a small two-wheeled carriage that seated one or two persons and was drawn by one horse. A phaeton was a sporty, four-wheeled open carriage drawn by one or two horses. Few other taxpayers owned even one carriage, much less more than one type. In 1787, only a few other prominent men of the time who owned taxable property in the county were assessed for as much or more of it than Richard Squire Taylor. According to the Auditor of Public Accounts, Personal Property Tax Books, 1787, Reel 198, Library of Virginia (LVA), Richmond, VA, they included Ralph Wormeley (89 slaves, 13 horses, and 226 cattle), Christopher Tompkins (38 slaves, 9 horses, 32 cattle, and one chair), Thomas Nelson (145 slaves, 35 horses, 146 cattle, and a post chair and chair), John P. Custis's estate (78 slaves, 15 horses, and 161 cattle), Edmund Berkeley (94 slaves, 16 horses, and 61 cattle), and Nathaniel Burwell (66 slaves, 16 horses, and 53 cattle). Benjamin Temple, an uncle of John Temple, owned 51 slaves, 12 horses, 60 cattle, and a phaeton and a chair. Only Tompkins and Taylor resided in King William County; the rest were absentee landowners.

¹⁶ William W. Hening and William Munford, *Reports of Cases Argued and Determined in the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia* (Flatbush, NY: I. Riley, 1809), 1:476–478, HathiTrust website, <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uva.x030201938&seq=7>, accessed Jan. 21, 2024.

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lieutenant colonel, and in 1782, was referred to as a colonel. After the war, he was elected to the Senate of Virginia (1792–1795), representing Caroline and Hanover Counties.¹⁷

Samuel Temple's brother, Colonel Benjamin Temple (1732–1804), also served in the Revolutionary War. In 1776, he was a cavalry captain in the Virginia Dragoons, lieutenant colonel of the 1st Continental Dragoons in 1777, and transferred to the 4th Dragoons in 1779. By the time the war ended in 1783, he was a colonel. He represented King William County in the Virginia House of Delegates (1784–1789), in the Convention of 1788 that ratified the United States Constitution, and in the Senate of Virginia (1790–1801), where he represented Essex, King and Queen, and King William Counties.¹⁸

John Temple first appeared in Caroline County's personal property tax books in 1788 as a taxable person above the age of sixteen in Samuel Temple's household. He did not appear in the land tax books. He disappeared from the county's personal property tax records in 1798, two years after marrying Alice Taylor, when he first appeared in the King William County tax books. Between 1797 and 1815, John and Alice Temple became the parents of eleven children; the eldest was Lewis Temple (1797–1835) and James Harvey Temple (1804–1857) was the seventh son. John Temple died on July 25, 1814, and Alice Taylor Temple died on May 1, 1822.¹⁹

In 1798, John Temple was assessed in King William County for two enslaved persons above the age of sixteen, two between the ages of twelve and sixteen, and two horses. By 1810, he was assessed for eighteen enslaved persons above sixteen, four between twelve and sixteen, and sixteen horses. Clearly, his wealth was increasing. On April 21, 1800, he became a landowner when Richard Squire Taylor deeded him 341 acres of his property. Although the land tax books are silent until 1820 regarding buildings on the property, perhaps 1800 was also the year that Temple constructed a one story, one-room, single-pile, side-passage-plan dwelling with a shed extension on the present-day Bear Garden tract.²⁰

There is, however, an alternative local tradition regarding the dwelling's first phase of construction: that the house was constructed as early as 1725 after the receipt of "a 3,000 acre grant from the English crown to the Nelson family" in that year, or by Robert Cowne at some

¹⁷ "Temple, John, Family Tree," FamilySearch website, <https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/KNH3-SPL/john-temple-1768-1814>, accessed Jan. 22, 2024; *ibid.*, "Temple, Colonel Samuel, Family Tree," <https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/LHK3-4DC/colonel-samuel-temple-1742-1798>, accessed Jan. 26, 2024; *ibid.*, "Taylor, Alice (1780–1822), Family Tree," <https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/KFYX-HGT/alice-taylor-1780-1822>, accessed Jan. 22, 2024; John H. Gwathmey, *Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution* (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1979), 763; Leonard, *General Assembly*, 190, 194, 198, 202.

¹⁸ "Temple, Colonel Benjamin Temple, Family Tree," FamilySearch website, <https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/LH6M-2V5/colonel-benjamin-temple-1734-1802>, accessed Jan. 26, 2024; Gwathmey, *Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution*, 763; Leonard, *General Assembly*, 154, 157, 161, 165, 173, 176, 182, 186, 190, 194, 198, 202, 206, 210, 214, 218.

¹⁹ "Temple, John, Family Tree," <https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/KNH3-SPL/john-temple-1768-1814>.

²⁰ Malcolm Hart Harris, *Old New Kent County: Some Account of the Planters, Plantations, and Places in King William County, St. John's Parish* (West Point, VA: Harris, 1977), 2:953; Auditor of Public Accounts, Personal Property Tax Books, King William County, 1798 and 1810, Reel 198, LVA; *ibid.*, Land Tax Book, King William County, 1800, Reel 164.

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point between the earliest proposed date and his sale of the 180-acre tract to Richard Squire Taylor in 1785. The scant contemporary records available do not reveal, however, where Cowne's tract was located or if it had a dwelling on it. Also, architectural historian Julia Henley asserted, based on the architectural evidence, that this earliest part of the present Bear Garden dwelling was more likely constructed in "the late eighteenth-century, but an early nineteenth-century date is possible." Her research supports the limited evidence that the tax records provide, while casting significant doubt over any much earlier construction date. Her conclusion is further supported by the assessment presented in Section 7 of this nomination.²¹

It may also have been the case that, regardless of when the first phase of the house was completed, it would have been too small (at approximately five hundred square feet including the side passage) for the Temples and their eleven children to live in, even given the cramped living conditions common for many people at that time. Strengthening this theory is the fact that the Temples were not "ordinary people" but the high-status offspring of wealthy, elite residents and leaders of Caroline and King William counties at a time of strong class-consciousness. Temple not only farmed, but also added to his wealth as a "merchant of King William," according to a deed of trust that John Roberts signed in July of 1803 as security for a debt he owed Temple.²² In addition, there is evidence that the couple had at least one other choice for a residence, a much larger dwelling on the property that they could have inhabited.

In 1820, when the value assessed for buildings first appeared in the land tax books, the buildings on the 341 acres that constituted "John Temple's estate" after he died in 1814 were assessed at \$2,000. At this time, the Bear Garden dwelling would have been the same one-story, one-room, single-pile, side-passage-plan house as it was when first constructed. For comparison, Cherry Grove, constructed about 1792 as a one-story, one-room, single-pile, side-passage-plan frame dwelling in the same county, was valued in 1820 at \$500. Why is there such a large difference in assessed value between two almost-identical dwellings? In the case of Bear Garden, the tax records suggest that there was likely another larger house on the property, and therefore, the

²¹ "Observations and Contemplations," *Herald-Progress* (Ashland), July 28, 1960; "Artifacts from Farm Included on Tour," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, Apr. 16, 1978; Julia Todd Henley, "The Eighteenth-Century Dwelling-Houses of King William County, Virginia" (M.A. Thesis, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, 1979), 35. Henley, on p. 205 of her thesis, also suggests a 1797 date for Bear Garden's construction, citing the diary of Frances Baylor Hill, of King and Queen County (William C. Bottorff and Roy C. Flannagan, eds., *The Diary of Frances Baylor Hill of "Hillsborough" King and Queen County Virginia, 1797*, photocopy of typescript, LVA, 21). Hill wrote on March 30, 1797, that she and a small group of her cousins walked from Pleasant Hill in King and Queen County "to Beargarden to drink tea," stayed for "an hour or two," and then walked back. Pleasant Hill no longer stands but was located a short distance upstream from West Point on the north bank of the Mattaponi River opposite Chelsea, which still stands in King William County ("Robinson, John," Find a Grave website, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/67380300/john-robinson>, accessed Mar. 30, 2025). Beargarden, perhaps the home of one of the cousins, must have been a short walk from Pleasant Hill. It could not have been John Temple's dwelling in King William County, which was almost forty miles west of Pleasant Hill by road.

²² Henley, "Dwelling-Houses," 34 (the main part of the house measured about 28 feet by 18 feet four inches, or about 504 square feet); Beverly R. Conolly, *King William County Virginia Records, 1702-1806* (Athens, GA: New Papyrus Publishing, 2006), 108.

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smaller residence may have been used for an overseer's or farm manager's house rather than the dwelling of the high-status and growing Temple family.²³

In 1814, the year of Temple's death, the remaining 1,122 acres in Richard Squire Taylor's estate were divided into two tracts: 700 acres went to his son William Taylor's estate near Mangohick Church and adjacent to John Temple's estate, while Richard Squire Taylor's estate retained 422 acres on the Pamunkey River at Taylor's Ferry. In 1820, the buildings on William Taylor's estate were valued at \$1,000, those at Taylor's Ferry at \$1,500, and those on Temple's estate at \$2,000, as mentioned above. For comparison, two other dwellings in King William County listed in the National Register of Historic Places should be considered: Wyoming, a large two-story, five-bay frame dwelling built for John Hoomes about 1800, and Roseville, a smaller two-story frame house constructed in 1807 for John Fox. Wyoming's buildings were valued in 1820 at \$3,000, while those at Roseville were assessed at \$1,000. This strongly suggests that there was another, larger house, no longer extant, on Temple's 341-acre tract, and that it may have been the Temple family's residence.²⁴

John Temple's tract was divided in 1821, and his eldest son, Lewis Temple, received 75 acres adjacent to James H. Temple and William Taylor's estate with buildings valued at \$500—the Bear Garden dwelling. In 1822, the year that Alice Temple died, James H. Temple was assigned the remainder, 266 acres with buildings assessed at \$1,500. It cannot be known why the younger son inherited more than the oldest sibling, but the value of the buildings on James Temple's tract is further evidence that a larger house existed on the farm when John Temple owned it.²⁵

The status quo was maintained from 1823 until 1827, when the 266-acre tract with \$1,500 in buildings was listed under James H. Temple but the adjoining 75-acre tract was divided. Lewis Temple retained 70 acres with no value added for buildings, while five acres with \$500 in buildings was charged to Robert A. Payne “by deed” from Lewis Temple. In other words, Lewis Temple had sold the Bear Garden tract to Payne. The first known reference to the property as Bear Garden, incidentally, may have published on January 6, 1827, when the *Richmond Enquirer* announced the marriage of “Thomas U. Toler, Esq., to Miss [Mary] Catharine Hunton, all of King William county,” at “Bear Garden” on December 26, 1826. In 1827, the Tolers had a son they named William Temple Toler, perhaps suggesting a link to the Temple family.²⁶

²³ Auditor of Public Accounts, Land Tax Book, King William County, 1820, Reel 165, LVA; Neville and Salmon, “Cherry Grove,” Sec. 8, p. 15. The term “buildings” refers not only to the main dwelling but to all other structures on the property, including any slave quarters, overseer's dwelling, barns, stables, corncribs, tobacco barns, and other farm outbuildings. Those structures were cheaply and simply built of available materials, however, whereas the principal dwelling was the most expensive and complicated to construct. Therefore, the value of “buildings” is mostly based on the estimated value of the main dwelling.

²⁴ Auditor of Public Accounts, Land Tax Book, King William County, 1814, Reel 165, LVA; *ibid.*, 1820; Janel Crist Kausner, “Roseville,” DHR File No. 050-0060, National Register of Historic Places Form, Aug. 8, 2007, DHR; *ibid.*, Virginia Landmarks Commission Staff, “Wyoming,” DHR File No. 050-0075, Feb. 8, 1980.

²⁵ Auditor of Public Accounts, Land Tax Books, King William County, 1821, 1822, Reel 165, LVA.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, 1823–1827; “Married,” *Richmond Enquirer*, Jan. 6, 1827; “Toler, Thomas Upton,” Family Tree, FamilySearch website, <https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/L7K3-PXW/thomas-upton-toler-1805-1865>, accessed Feb. 2, 2024. The “original” Bear Garden was a bearbaiting arena of that name, which stood in London south of the Thames River and close by Shakespeare's Globe Theater (“Bear Garden,” Map of Early London website,

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In 1828, James and Lewis Temple's tracts were recorded with the same values as in 1827, but Payne's tract increased in size to 8 and 5/12th acres, perhaps because a new survey had been made when he bought the parcel. The tract was noted as being adjacent to Lewis Temple and Thomas C. Nelson. In 1830, Payne sold the tract, rounded up to 8.5 acres, with \$500 in buildings, back to Lewis Temple. In 1832, the Temple brothers sold both tracts, totaling 344.5 acres with buildings valued at \$2,000, to William B. Cook.²⁷

In 1833, Cook's property was recorded as totaling 336 acres, with buildings valued at \$1,500. There is no explanation in the land tax books for the changes from the previous year, although Cook may have commissioned a new survey of the tract. It also could be that Cook sold the 8.5-acre tract with its \$500 in buildings, although there is no comment in the land tax books that shows any other landowner acquiring this parcel. In 1834, Cook sold the 336-acre tract to Horace G. White. In 1840, a year in which assessors were required by law to reassess the properties in their districts, the value of the buildings dropped from \$1,500 to \$400 with no explanation. Generally, buildings slowly lost value as they aged, but such a large and sudden decline was typically because of a disastrous fire or demolition. Perhaps the larger house, the possible home of John Temple and his family, had burned down.²⁸

Horace G. White was born on May 15, 1784, in Caroline County, Virginia. He died at Calno, in King William County, on August 14, 1854, and is buried in the Lansdowne White Family Cemetery in Calno, about two miles north of Bear Garden. In 1847, White sold the property to John P. Stevens, and in 1850 Stevens bought an adjoining tract of 170 acres from John Powell Jr. The value of the buildings on the combined tract of 506 acres remained \$400.²⁹

John P. Stevens was born in 1820 and married Nancy ("Ann") Floyd in 1843. They had three daughters: Frances, born ca. 1846; Mary I., born ca. 1848; and Ada Presley, born 1851. It was likely John Stevens, with his growing family, who decided to add a room to the other side of the passage, thereby changing the house's floor plan from side-passage to central-passage. The value of the buildings on Bear Garden's 506 acres increased in 1851 to \$500 from \$400 in 1850, perhaps reflecting the addition of the room.³⁰

In 1850, according to the U.S. Census, John Stevens enslaved sixteen persons at Bear Garden: eight males aged twenty-five, twenty-four, twenty-two, seventeen, fifteen, twelve, ten, and three,

<https://mapoflondon.uvic.ca/BEAR1.htm>, accessed Mar. 30, 2025). The term "bear garden" denotes a place of rowdiness and lowbrow entertainment.

²⁷ Auditor of Public Accounts, Land Tax Books, King William County, 1828–1832, Reel 165, LVA.

²⁸ Ibid., 1833–1840. A search of online newspapers for this period found no reports of destructive fires in King William Co.

²⁹ "White, Horace," Find A Grave website, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/252191823/horace-white>, accessed Sept. 26, 2023; Auditor of Public Accounts, Land Tax Books, King William County, 1847–1850, Reel 165, LVA.

³⁰ "Stevens, John P. Jr., Family Tree," FamilySearch website, <https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/GWC4-YKJ/john-p.-stevens-jr.-1820-1855>, accessed Feb. 2, 2024; U.S. Census, Inhabitants, 1850, Virginia, King William Co., LVA; Auditor of Public Accounts, Land Tax Books, King William County, 1850–1851, Reels 165 and 166, LVA.

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and eight females aged sixty, forty-five, twenty-five, twenty-two, seventeen, twelve, eight, and five. Of 506 acres, 300 were improved and 206 were unimproved (woodlands and uncultivated fields). The farm was valued at \$2,900, with \$100 in farming implements. Stevens owned two horses, three mules, three milch cows, four working oxen, ten other cattle, fifteen sheep, and sixteen swine, for a total of \$600 worth of livestock. He harvested 200 bushels of wheat, 750 bushels of corn, and 50 bushels of oats. His sheep produced 50 pounds of wool, and his cow's milk made 100 pounds of butter. The value of the animals slaughtered was \$55.³¹

On July 9, 1855, John P. Stevens shot himself and died. According to a newspaper report, "He had been, for several weeks previous to his death, laboring under mental derangement, from some imaginary cause, which induced him to commit suicide. Mr. S. was an amiable and highly respectable gentleman. He leaves a wife and three interesting little daughters, who have the general sympathy, in their bereavement." The records suggest that Stevens was prosperous. The number of enslaved persons on whom he paid taxes increased between 1854 and 1855 from sixteen to twenty-eight, and the number of horses he owned likewise increased, from four to eight. Only the number of cattle and sheep declined, from fifty to forty. In both years, he was taxed on one carriage, one gold watch, one clock, and household furniture valued at \$100.³²

Stevens's seeming prosperity may, however, have been illusory. On December 11, 1854, he bought at auction from George Taylor a 1,038-acre farm on the Pamunkey River called Difficult Hill. The property sold included the farm's "lands, negroes, stocks, implements, etc.," but not whatever crops were then growing, which Taylor reserved the right to harvest and sell. The terms of the sale were "for the Slaves, cash; and for Lands, . . . one-third cash, balance at 1 and 2 years, for negotiable notes, bearing interest, secured by a trust deed." Stevens, then, was to pay cash for the slaves (perhaps a dozen, as the increased number in the 1854–1855 personal property tax books suggest), cash for a third of the farm's value, and then commit to a two-year mortgage for the balance. Perhaps these terms overwhelmed and stressed him to the point of despair and self-destruction six months later. Despite the terms of the sale, however, both Bear Garden and Difficult Hill remained in the possession of Stevens's estate after his death.³³

In 1860, according to the U.S. Census, Ann Stevens, age thirty-three, lived in a household in King William County with her daughters Fanny (Frances), age fourteen, and Ada, age nine. Mary I. Stevens, who was born in 1848 and would have been twelve, was not listed; she may have died. Ann Stevens is not credited with owning any real or "personal estate," perhaps because it was assigned to the estate of her late husband. Warner Hutchinson, farmer, age fifty-one, and his family of two women (one presumably his sister) and six children, lived in the same

³¹ U.S. Census, Slave Inhabitants, 1850, Virginia, King William County, LVA; U.S. Census, Selected Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, Agriculture, 1850, Virginia, King William Co., LVA.

³² "Suicide," *Alexandria Gazette*, July 16, 1855, Genealogy Bank website, www.genealogybank.com, accessed Sept. 23, 2023; Auditor of Public Accounts, Personal Property Tax Books, King William County, 1854–1855, Reel 594, LVA.

³³ "Peremptory and Extensive Sale on the Pamunkey River, of Land, Slaves, Stocks, Implements, and Crops," *Richmond Daily Whig*, Dec. 19, 1854, Genealogy Bank website, www.genealogybank.com, accessed Feb. 19, 2024; *ibid.*, Nov. 6, 1854; Auditor of Public Accounts, Land Tax Books, King William County, 1854–1855, Reel 165a, LVA; *ibid.*, Personal Property Tax Books, 1854–1855, Reel 594.

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household. He is credited with owning real estate worth \$12,000 and personal estate valued at \$15,000. The next household listed in the census is that of William Tuck, overseer, age twenty-six.³⁴

Ann Stevens enslaved fifteen persons in 1860, all female, who ranged in age from six months to seventy years. Warner Hutchinson enslaved ten females from six months to seventy-five years in age, and thirteen males ranging in age from two years to forty-five years.³⁵

The agricultural census for 1860 lists Ann Stevens as the owner of two farms. The first, undoubtedly Bear Garden, consisted of 400 improved acres and 300 unimproved according to the census, 200 acres more than that farm's actual number. The reason for the obvious miscalculation is unknown, as the 1860 land tax book accurately lists the acreage as 506. The farm was valued at \$3,500, \$600 more than in 1850, and had \$50 in farm implements. There were three horses, five cattle, and eight sheep; the total livestock value was \$350. Crops included 25 bushels of wheat, 300 bushels of corn, 10 bushels of peas and beans, 20 bushels of Irish potatoes, 50 bushels of sweet potatoes, and 2,000 pounds of tobacco. The cows produced 100 pounds of butter, and two tons of hay were cut. The "homemade manufactures" were valued at \$50, and \$250 worth of animals were slaughtered.³⁶

Difficult Hill constituted Ann Stevens's second farm in the 1860 agricultural census, and its acreage was more accurately reported. It had 600 improved and 400 unimproved acres, with a value of \$15,000. There were \$60 in farm implements, one horse, five mules, and fifteen cattle, for a total of \$600 worth of livestock. The farm produced 800 bushels of wheat, 3,000 bushels of corn, 10 bushels of Irish potatoes, 10 bushels of sweet potatoes, 8 tons of hay, and 2,000 pounds of tobacco. The animals slaughtered were worth \$40. Considering the enormous amount of corn produced, George Taylor may not have been boasting when he wrote in his advertisement that "I regard Difficult Hill as the most fertile, compact and profitable farm I know."³⁷

And then came the Civil War. During the conflict, only two known war-related activities occurred in King William County, the first of which was a scouting expedition by Confederate cavalry on July 22, 1862. Just where this took place is not stated. Long after the war, in 1978, the owner of Bear Garden asserted that "Bear Garden Farm served as the headquarters of Gen. Fitzhugh Lee in 1863. His name was scratched on a window pane and also carved on bricks around a downstairs fireplace." The fireplace was said to be "in the left room," presumably to the left of the central passage in the mid-century addition. During a renovation some years later,

³⁴ U.S. Census, Inhabitants, 1860, Virginia, King William Co., LVA. The census record does not explain whether Hutchinson was residing at Bear Garden with Ann Stevens and her daughters and working on her farm, or if the Stevenses were living at Hutchinson's farm.

³⁵ U.S. Census, Slave Inhabitants, 1860, Virginia, King William County, LVA.

³⁶ U.S. Census, Selected Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, Agriculture, 1860, Virginia, King William Co., LVA; *ibid.*, 1850; Auditor of Public Accounts, Land Tax Book, King William County, 1860, Reel 481, LVA.

³⁷ U.S. Census, Selected Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, Agriculture, 1860, Virginia, King William Co., LVA; "Extensive Sale of Lands on the Pamunkey River, with Slaves, Stocks, Implements, and Crops," *Richmond Enquirer*, Aug. 11, 1854, Genealogy Bank website, www.genealogybank.com, accessed Feb. 19, 2024.

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however, the house's windows were removed and replaced, so no physical evidence remains that this inscription ever existed. The inscribed bricks are likewise unaccounted for today.³⁸

Confederate Major General Fitzhugh "Fitz" Lee was a nephew of General Robert E. Lee. Research in *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, biographies of Fitz Lee, and campaign histories failed to place Fitz Lee with certainty in King William County at any time during the war. At the start of 1863, he was known to have been in the vicinity of Fredericksburg and points farther west of King William County. He commanded Confederate cavalry in the Battle of Kelly's Ford, a Rappahannock River crossing into Culpeper County, on March 17, and served in the Battle of Chancellorsville in May. During the Battle of Brandy Station in Culpeper County on June 9, he was out of action with "inflammatory rheumatism," from which he recovered in the Confederate camp there in time to take part in the Gettysburg Campaign. He was with the Army of Northern Virginia in Orange County for the rest of the year and the winter of 1863, and then led his men in the Battles of the Wilderness and other engagements during the 1864 Overland Campaign.³⁹

If Fitz Lee had ever campaigned through King William County during the war, it probably would have been in June 1864, when Union Major General Philip H. Sheridan began a cavalry raid that passed through the county and culminated in the battle at Trevilian Station in Louisa County. During the Overland Campaign, Sheridan was posted at New Castle, south of the Pamunkey River in Hanover County. On June 7, he began his raid by leading his corps northeast to Aylett in King William County, on the south side of the Mattaponi River, then westward through the county on a route just south of that river into Caroline County and ultimately to Louisa County and Trevilian Station. Confederate Major General Wade Hampton led his command, which included Fitz Lee's division, in pursuit along the Richmond, Fredericksburg, & Potomac Railroad (RF&P) starting north of Richmond through Hanover Junction (present-day Doswell) and then west on the Virginia Central Railroad line to Trevilian Station. This route was five or more miles south of the path that Sheridan was taking and never crossed into King William County. When word of Sheridan's movement first reached Hampton, Fitz Lee and his men were positioned east of Richmond on the Williamsburg Road about one mile from Bottom's Bridge, approximately eleven miles south of King William County. Although his exact route is not known, he would have taken the shortest way to the RF&P line just north of Richmond to join Hampton, as speed was of the essence. Lee telegraphed messages from the Williamsburg Road location, Ashland Station, and Frederick Hall in Louisa County (once before and once after the battle), far to the west of King William County. After the fight, as Sheridan retreated eastward, then south to rejoin the Federal army, Hampton and Lee rode in hot pursuit along the same route. The pursued and their pursuers remained north of the Mattaponi River until crossing over at

³⁸ E. B. Long, *The Civil War Day by Day: An Almanac, 1861–1865* (Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1971), 243; "Artifacts from Farm Included on Tour," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, Apr. 16, 1978; "Home of Lewis W. Moren," King William County, Virginia, Genealogy and History website, https://genealogytrails.com/vir/kingwilliam/history_1925booklet.html, accessed Sept. 26, 2023.

³⁹ Patricia L. Faust, ed., *Historical Times Illustrated Encyclopedia of the Civil War* (New York: Harper & Row, 1986), 429; Edward G. Longacre, "Fitz and Rooney Lee," March 25, 2007, Lee Family Digital Archive website, <https://leefamilyarchive.org/reference/addresses/longacre/index.html>, accessed Feb. 3, 2024.

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Aylett, and then they rode south through King William Court House and across the Pamunkey, Chickahominy, and James Rivers. The chase continued day and night with only brief stops to rest the exhausted horses and men beside the roads; there were no lengthy pauses at off-the-track farmhouses. In short, there is no evidence that Fitz Lee came past Bear Garden during this fast-moving campaign that ended on June 28, or, apparently, at any other time.⁴⁰

A subsequent owner of Bear Garden who fought in the Civil War, Jacob Alonzo Chisholm, was born in 1840 in Hanover County. He enlisted there, in Ashland, as a private in the 15th Virginia Infantry on April 23, 1861. He later served in the 5th Virginia Cavalry and was captured in September 1864, probably during the Shenandoah Valley campaigns of that year, and imprisoned at Point Lookout, Maryland. He was exchanged on March 18, 1865. By 1870, he and his older brother, Edward Chisholm, were merchants sharing a household in King William County, each owning \$1,000 in personal property. On October 17, 1871, Jacob Chisholm married Ada Presley Stevens, daughter of John P. and Nancy “Ann” Stevens. On August 1, 1872, their son James O. Chisholm was born. They later had three daughters and one other son. On March 5, 1873, Jacob Chisholm was appointed postmaster at Etna Mills, a position he held until November 9, 1876. Ada Stevens Chisholm became the sole heir of Bear Garden and the other tracts in her father’s estate after Frances, her sister, died in 1877. On August 3, 1877, the Chisholms sold most of the Bear Garden tract, including the house, to Lewis Washington Moren. They left the county, moving first to Caroline County, where they appeared in the 1880 census (he was a farmer), and later to Richmond. Ada Stevens Chisholm died there on August 28, 1919, and Jacob Chisholm died on November 7, 1922.⁴¹

The Chisholms spent twenty years, between 1877 and 1897 when they lived in Caroline County, selling parcels of land in King William County that Ada Chisholm had inherited from her father. In addition to the Bear Garden parcel containing the house, they sold an adjoining tract of 7.75 acres to Moren on February 3, 1888. They also sold two adjacent tracts—one of 20.75 acres to brothers Richard and Peter Harris on January 8, 1891, and the other of eight acres to Charles Coleman on August 20, 1891. Each was described as having been part of the “Beargarden” or

⁴⁰ Eric J. Wittenberg, *Glory Enough for All: Sheridan’s Second Raid and the Battle of Trevilian Station* (Washington, DC: Brassey’s, 2001), 44, 46–47, 49, 220–221, and 226; *Atlas to Accompany the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies* (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1891–1895), 188, plate 74, map 1 (routes of Sheridan’s advance and retreat); Robert N. Scott, ed., *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies* (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1880–1901), Series 1, Volume 51, Part 2, pp. 984, 998, 1004, and 1009 (Fitz Lee’s messages).

⁴¹ “Chisholm, Jacob Alonzo,” U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861–1965, Ancestry.com website, <https://www.ancestry.com>, accessed Sept. 23, 2023; U.S. Census, Inhabitants, 1870, Virginia, King William Co., Ancestry.com website, <https://www.ancestry.com>, accessed Feb. 21, 2024; “Stevens, Ada P.,” Virginia, U.S., Select Marriages, 1785–1940, Ancestry.com website, <https://www.ancestry.com>, accessed Nov. 17, 2023; “Chisholm, Jacob A.,” U.S., Appointments of U.S. Postmasters, 1832–1971, Ancestry.com website, <https://www.ancestry.com>, accessed Nov. 17, 2023; John P. Stevens Jr., Family Tree, FamilySearch website, <https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/GWC4-YKJ/john-p.-stevens-jr.-1820-1855>, accessed Feb. 2, 2024; King William County Deed Book 2, 1885, Reel 24, pp. 321–322, deed, recorded Aug. 28, 1877, re-recorded Oct. 5, 1885, LVA; U.S. Census, Inhabitants, 1880, Virginia, Caroline Co., LVA; “Chisholm, Ada Presley,” Death Certificate, Aug. 28, 1919, Virginia, U.S., Death Records, 1912–2014, Ancestry.com website, <https://www.ancestry.com>, accessed Nov. 17, 2023; *ibid.*, “Chisholm, Jacob Alonzo,” Nov. 7, 1922, accessed Sept. 23, 2023.

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“Bear Garden” property. Ada Chisholm also had inherited 340 acres of the Difficult Hill tract after John P. Stevens died and his estate was divided, while her sister Frances (Fanny) E. Jeter had been given the remainder. Ada Chisholm sold her portion to John W. Atkinson on February 1, 1894.⁴²

Lewis Washington Moren was born in King William County on September 21, 1848, and died at Bear Garden on August 21, 1923. He married Mary Elizabeth Robinson in 1881. She was born in Richmond on February 17, 1855, and died at Bear Garden on January 20, 1930. Both are buried in the Hebron Baptist Church (now Broadus Church Hebron Campus) Cemetery two miles northeast of the house. Lewis Moren is listed in the 1880 census as a farmer, with four others in his household: George Jackson, Black, farm laborer, age twenty; Harriet Turner, Black, cook, age thirty; Charlotte Turner, mulatto, age six; and Rodney Turner, mulatto, age three.⁴³

The 1880 census of agricultural products reported that Moren had 78 acres in cultivation, 40 acres in woodland, and 50 acres classed as “old fields.” The value of the farm, including land, fences, and buildings, was \$700; farm implements were valued at \$40, and livestock at \$200. Moren spent \$8 to purchase fertilizer in 1879, when he also paid \$150 for 60 weeks of hired labor including housework. The total value of all farm products in 1879 was \$500. He owned two horses, one milch cow, and one other cow, as well as nine hogs. Poultry numbered 18, and they produced 60 dozen eggs in 1879. Moren had planted 40 acres in corn, harvesting 500 bushels; 20 acres in oats, producing 70 bushels; 25 acres in wheat, producing 117 bushels; 2 acres in Irish potatoes, producing 260 bushels; and 2 acres in tobacco, producing 2,000 pounds. Forest products included 15 cords of wood, and his income from such products was \$30.⁴⁴

Sometime between his purchase of Bear Garden in 1877 and his death in 1923, Moren “added two rooms on the north [end of the house] at the end of the hall.” The land tax books suggest a possible date for the addition and other improvements. When he acquired the farm, the space for the value added for buildings was blank, and it remained so until 1881, when it increased to \$200. It stayed at that level until 1896, when it rose to \$400, increased by 50 percent to \$600 in 1901, then declined in 1906 to \$380. It fell to \$350 in 1921 and remained there through 1923, when Moren died. It is probable that Moren, after making smaller improvements to the farm, built the two-room rear addition between 1896 and 1901, perhaps in the latter year, given the large increase in value during that time.⁴⁵

⁴² King William County, Deed Book 7, 1888–1889, Reel 26, pp. 209–210, deed, recorded March 25, 1889, LVA; *ibid.*, Deed Book 9, 1890–1891, Reel 27, p. 357, deed, recorded March 7, 1891; *ibid.*, Deed Book 10, 1891–1892, Reel 28, pp. 6–7, deed, recorded June 4, 1891; *ibid.*, Deed Book 12, 1893–1894, Reel 29, p. 283, deed, recorded March 9, 1894.

⁴³ “Moren, Lewis Washington,” U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s–Current, Ancestry.com website, <https://www.ancestry.com>, accessed Sept. 23, 2023; *ibid.*, “Moren, Mary Elizabeth Robinson”; U.S. Census, Inhabitants, 1880, 1900, Virginia, King William Co., LVA, Ancestry.com website, <https://www.ancestry.com>, accessed Sept. 23, 2023, and Apr. 3, 2025.

⁴⁴ U.S. Census, Selected Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, Agriculture, 1880, Virginia, King William Co., Ancestry.com website, <https://www.ancestry.com>, accessed Feb. 16, 2024.

⁴⁵ Auditor of Public Accounts, Land Tax Books, King William County, 1877–1923, LVA. The land tax books on microfilm were filmed for the years 1782–1870 in alphabetical order by county (those years for King William

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The widow of Lewis W. Moren continued to live at Bear Garden after his death. Their daughter Ida May Moren had earlier married Richard A. Mitchell, of Richmond, at Bear Garden on April 22, 1908, and then moved to the city. Her unmarried sister May Elva Moren was likely living at the farm when their mother died there on January 20, 1930. Their brother Joseph E. Moren lived at the time half a dozen miles northeast at Duane in northwestern King William County.⁴⁶

Early in 1941, Benjamin Floyd Flickinger and his wife Mary Whitley Flickinger, together with his brother Walter S. Flickinger, bought Bear Garden from Ida May Mitchell and her surviving siblings. Perhaps the Flickingers, who were living in Richmond in 1940, had met the Mitchells there and became interested in moving to the country. By April 1941, they were being welcomed to the area as new neighbors.⁴⁷

B. Floyd Flickinger, as he was known professionally, was born on June 10, 1905, in Reinholds, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, to the Reverend Stephen L. and Kathryn Royer Flickinger. He was reared in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, and graduated from Shepherd College, then a two-year school. He took his bachelor's degree at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania, in 1927 before doing graduate work in history at the University of Virginia and Johns Hopkins University. He married Mrs. Mary Whitley Malmquist in Baltimore in November 1932.⁴⁸

Mary Whitley was born on March 27, 1900, in Whitakers, North Carolina, the daughter of Edward and Minnie Ormand Whitley. She married Almar Carl Malmquist in Yorktown, Virginia, on July 16, 1921. They moved about and had one son, Welford Carl Malmquist, born in 1923 in Florence, Alabama, who served during World War II in Europe as a waist gunner in a B-17 Flying Fortress in the 447th Bombardment Group, 8th Air Force. Long before then, however, his parents divorced, in 1929. The next year, Mary Whitley and her son were living with her mother, Minnie L. Ormand, and stepfather in Yorktown, Virginia, where Mary Whitley worked as a clerk in a drugstore.⁴⁹

County are found on five microfilm reels: 164, 165, 165a, 481, and 482). Beginning with the 1871 land tax books through 1923, however, all of the counties were filmed in alphabetical order one year at a time. For King William County, the book for 1871 is on Reel 605, for 1872 on Reel 618, for 1873 on Reel 631, and so on through 1923 on Reel 1953. There are too many reels to list here. The entire run of land tax books for the county, 1782–1923, can be accessed by opening each drawer of microfilm in sequence.

⁴⁶ "Mitchell—Moren," *Richmond Daily Dispatch*, Apr. 20, 1908; "Deaths: Moren," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, Jan. 22, 1930.

⁴⁷ King William County, Deed Book 58, p. 436, as noted in General Index to Deeds, Release Deeds, Misc. Liens, Wills, etc., 1881–1981, Grantees (A-J), Microfilm Reel 37, LVA, F5, p. 16; "Mangohick," *Tidewater Review*, Apr. 17, 1941, on LVA, Virginia Chronicle website, <https://viriniachronicle.com/>, accessed Feb. 7, 2024.

⁴⁸ "B. Floyd Flickinger, 87, Northumberland," *The Daily Item* (Sunbury, Pennsylvania), Nov. 19, 1992, Newspapers, Ancestry.com website, <https://www.ancestry.com>, accessed Feb. 6, 2024; "B. Floyd Flickinger, 87, Expert on Area History," *Baltimore Sun*, Nov. 21, 1992, Genealogy Bank website, www.genealogybank.com, accessed Sept. 23, 2023; "Many Wedding Events Feature of Late Autumn," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, Nov. 20, 1932.

⁴⁹ Mary Whitley Flickinger, Death Certificate, June 4, 1985, Virginia, U.S., Death Records, 1912–2014, LVA, Ancestry.com website, <https://www.ancestry.com>, accessed Sept. 23, 2023; "Six Virginians Are Decorated for Services," *Richmond Times Dispatch*, July 27, 1944; Estley K. Surridge and Edward C. Dooley, eds., *Pictorial History of the 447 Bombardment Group (H)* (N.p.: 1946), 250, CORE website, <https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/234781312.pdf>, accessed Feb. 7, 2024; Mary Miles Malmquist, Divorce Record, Nov. 12, 1929, Virginia, U.S., Divorce Records, 1918–2014, Ancestry.com website, <https://www.ancestry.com>,

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After the Flickingers' wedding trip, they returned to Yorktown, where B. Floyd Flickinger was an assistant park historian at Colonial National Monument. He had been an instructor in history and English at the College of William and Mary between 1929 and July 1931, when he was appointed to the position at the National Monument. Colonial National Monument was authorized by an act of Congress on July 3, 1930, and was formally established on December 30, 1930. On June 5, 1936, it was redesignated a National Historical Park under the authority of the National Park Service. Flickinger was appointed superintendent there on December 12, 1933, and served in that position until February 15, 1939, when he resigned from the Park Service. He had been ordered to report to St. Augustine and assume the role of superintendent of Fort Marion and Fort Matanzas National Monuments but refused and resigned.⁵⁰

At the time Flickinger registered for the draft on October 16, 1940, the couple was living at 706 St. Christopher's Lane just west of Richmond in Henrico County. St. Christopher's School, a private prep school for boys, employed him, presumably as a teacher. By April 1941, however, he and his wife had bought Bear Garden from the heirs of Lewis Moren and moved there.⁵¹

During World War II, Flickinger was engaged in research for the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps school and training facility at Camp Lee (renamed Fort Gregg-Adams in 1923) just east of Petersburg, Virginia. His personal papers, located at the College of William and Mary Library, include a collection of reports and research concerning dehydrated food and other Army rations between 1942 and 1945. In the latter year, he applied for a position at the *William and Mary Quarterly* in Williamsburg but was not hired.⁵²

During the war, the Flickingers' marriage deteriorated. In December 1945, B. Floyd Flickinger departed Virginia for Baltimore, where on January 15, 1947, he was directed by a judge "to pay \$16 a week temporary alimony to his wife pending adjudication of their divorce and alimony proceedings." While it is not known if Mrs. Flickinger received permanent alimony, a divorce was granted. B. Floyd Flickinger married Geneva F. Ely, a professor at Towson State University, in 1954.⁵³

accessed Sept. 23, 2023 (either her middle name was Miles or Whitley was misread when the decree was written); U.S. Census, Inhabitants, 1930, Virginia, Yorktown, LVA, Ancestry.com website, <https://www.ancestry.com>, accessed Feb. 7, 2024.

⁵⁰ "Many Wedding Events Feature of Late Autumn," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, Nov. 20, 1932; "Colonial National Historical Park," Wikipedia website, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colonial_National_Historical_Park, accessed Feb. 6, 2024; "Flickinger Balks at Order Sending Him to New Post," *Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*, Feb. 16, 1939, Genealogy Bank website, www.genealogybank.com, accessed Feb. 6, 2024.

⁵¹ Benjamin Floyd Flickinger, Draft Registration Card, Oct. 16, 1940, Virginia, U.S., World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940–1947, Ancestry.com website, <https://www.ancestry.com>, accessed Feb. 6, 2024; "Mangohick," *Tidewater Review*, Apr. 17, 1941, on LVA, Virginia Chronicle website, <https://viriniachronicle.com/>, accessed Feb. 7, 2024.

⁵² Floyd Flickinger Personal Papers, 1929–1961, William & Mary Libraries, Special Collections Research Center website, https://scrcguides.libraries.wm.edu/repositories/2/archival_objects/306854, accessed Feb. 8, 2024.

⁵³ "Flickinger Case Alimony Ordered," *Baltimore Sun*, Jan. 24, 1947, Newspapers, Ancestry.com website, <https://www.ancestry.com>, accessed Feb. 6, 2024; *ibid.*, "Geneva F. Ely, 90, professor, member of school board," Nov. 14, 2002.

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Mrs. Mary Whitley Flickinger continued to live at Bear Garden. In 1960 it was reported that the principal crop was corn, and that Russell Acre worked the farm for her. She died at Bear Garden on June 4, 1985. The next year, the farm was advertised for sale, with 198 acres. Her son and heir, Carl Malmquist, rehabilitated the house and then sold the property in 1986 to Glenn Johnson. He sold it to The Carey Company, a commercial roofing firm owned by the Conner family. The present owner, Elizabeth Conner Flippen, inherited the tract from her family.⁵⁴

Architectural Context

King William County has a number of large, fine homes, mostly constructed of brick, along the two rivers that flank the county, the Pamunkey and the Mattaponi. These houses were built by and for the large planters and movers and shakers of the county and beyond, and many are listed in the National Register. Bear Garden is a different type of house. Built in the western end of the county and near, but not on, one of the rivers that watered the county, the Pamunkey, it is a much smaller one story, frame dwelling that originally had a side-passage, one-room plan with original heated shed room on the eastern end. While small and not ornate, Bear Garden was built by a locally prominent family and, nevertheless, a substantial house when it was built.

Bear Garden has much in common with several other houses built about the same time during the post-Revolutionary War building, remodeling, and expanding of houses that occurred after the war. Bear Garden is an example of how dwellings evolved over time to meet the needs of its residents. It is also representative of houses that were built in Tidewater Virginia, as King William County lies in the coastal plain. The typical rural eastern Virginia house until the twentieth century was a single-pile frame dwelling, one or two rooms long, with end chimneys. Until almost the middle of the nineteenth century, single-story or story-and-a-half houses were the rule.⁵⁵

A study of King William County houses thought to have been built in the eighteenth century provides context for how Bear Garden fits into the built history of King William County.⁵⁶ Among the frame houses studied, most were one stories tall, mostly gable or less frequently gambrel-roof houses with dormers regardless of the floor plan. All had brick foundations and brick chimneys laid either in English or Flemish bond although there were three-course American bond chimneys or foundations that had been added later or altered.

The houses with similar characteristics and the same floor plan as Bear Garden (one-room, side-passage plan) include Enfield (050-0023), Sycamore Grove (050-0095), and Broadneck (050-0008). Broadneck has been demolished since the study was conducted. These houses are spread throughout the county although Bear Garden is the farthest west. Bear Garden, Enfield, and Sycamore Grove are all one story frame houses with side gable roofs with gabled dormers while

⁵⁴ "Observations and Contemplations," *Herald-Progress* (Ashland), July 28, 1960; "Flickinger," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, June 5, 1985; "Bear Garden Farm," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, July 27, 1986; Personal communication, Elizabeth Conner Flippen to Ashley M. Neville, Feb. 13, 2024; Philip Carey Company advertisement, *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, Apr. 11, 1926.

⁵⁵ Upton, "Early Virginia Architecture," 1.

⁵⁶ Julia Henley's "Eighteenth Century Dwelling Houses." The following paragraphs are derived from her study.

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Broadneck was a full two stories but had the same floor plan. All of these houses were later expanded and altered. Bear Garden is unusual in this group as it has an original shed room on the eastern end of the single room and both rooms were heated by the same chimney.⁵⁷ A passage in a house allowed for greater control of visitors into the house and segregated who would be allowed farther into the house unlike the hall-and-chamber plan that allowed entrance directly into the main rooms of the house. A passage also helped to control the summer heat with its opposing doors that could be opened for cooling breezes.

All of these houses have some surviving beaded weatherboards and most have Flemish bond brick foundations and chimneys. The original house at Bear Garden, however, has an English bond basement. The chimney bond is not visible because the chimneys are interior-end chimneys and only the stacks are visible. Bear Garden is unique among these houses because it has interior-end brick chimneys instead of exterior-end chimneys. The basement sections of the chimneys, both the original and the early addition, are laid in English bond. All except Broadneck are roughly 18 feet deep, which is fairly standard for Virginia houses of this type.⁵⁸

The single-room addition to Bear Garden in the first half of the nineteenth century created a single-pile, central-passage-plan house—a plan that became increasingly popular in the nineteenth century. It also created a more generous and well-appointed house. The addition of the front porch and the rear ell in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century again followed prevailing norms. Porches were rare on colonial buildings but were added to almost all houses in the nineteenth century.⁵⁹ The addition of the rear ell brought the kitchen onto the main floor and allowed additional room for dining. Although there have been a number of changes to Bear Garden over the years by different owners, its basic form and plan remain unaltered from when it was built. It is an example of a late-eighteenth-century or early-nineteenth-century dwelling in King William County that evolved over time to meet its owner's needs and is more typical of its period than the larger houses along the rivers.

Archeological Potential

There has never been any formal archaeological testing conducted on the Bear Garden property. At the height of its land assemblage in the 19th century, the farm property held the contributing smokehouse and would have likely included additional secondary resources that are no longer present, possibly including a barn, icehouse and/or dairy. In addition, considering the number of enslaved individuals documented in primary records, dwellings for enslaved people likely existed. As such, the property should be considered high potential for intact archaeological remains. Due to the construction of the addition, front porch, and rear ell on the house, there has been ground disturbance around its perimeter. Regarding the surrounding land within the nominated boundary, its continuous agricultural use has likely caused a degree of ground disturbance, but the depth of that disturbance is unknown, and it is possible that intact archaeological features may remain even beneath disturbed ground. Careful professional archaeological exploration of the property could provide valuable contributions to an

⁵⁷ Ibid, 30.

⁵⁸ Measurements for Broadneck were not given.

⁵⁹ Buchanan, "Eighteenth-Century Frame Houses," 71.

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understanding of how this property evolved and functioned from the late 19th through 20th century.

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Bear Garden

Name of Property

King William County, VA

County and State

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Bear Garden

Name of Property

King William County, VA

County and State

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☒ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Va.,
Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va.

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 050-0005

Bear Garden
Name of Property

King William County, VA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.9 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 37° 47' 53.04" N Longitude: 71° 17' 25.73" W

2. Latitude: Longitude:

3. Latitude: Longitude:

4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☐ NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The true and correct historic boundaries are shown on the attached scaled Bear Garden Tax Parcel Map for Parcel #10-27. The 1.9-acre nominated boundary within Parcel 10-27 is outlined in black.

Bear Garden
Name of Property

King William County, VA
County and State

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The property's historic setting and all known associated historic resources have been included within the nominated area's 1.9-acre boundary.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Ashley Neville & John Salmon
organization: Ashley Neville LLC
street & number: 7608 North Pinehill Drive
city or town: Henrico state: VA zip code: 23228
e-mail: ashleyneville@comcast.net
telephone: 804-307-4601
date: _____

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Bear Garden

Name of Property

King William County, VA

County and State

Photo Log

Name of Property: Bear Garden

City or Vicinity: Hanover

County: King William

State: Virginia

Photographer: Ashley Neville

Date Photographed: March 23, 2025

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 1 of 13 | Site, view to the north |
| 2 of 13 | Original house are the four bays on the right including shed-roof extension, view to the northwest |
| 3 of 13 | Front, early addition is two bays on the left (west), view to the north |
| 4 of 13 | Front and western end of early addition, view to the northeast |
| 5 of 13 | Western end showing small unglazed openings, view to the east |
| 6 of 13 | Rear showing late-19th-early-20th century rear ell and 2024 addition, view to the southwest |
| 7 of 13 | Original side passage looking to the rear, view to the north |
| 8 of 13 | Side passage stair, view to the northwest |
| 9 of 13 | First-floor room in original house with door to shed-roof extension, view to the east |
| 10 of 13 | Shed room mantel, view to the west |
| 11 of 13 | Early addition first-floor room showing doors to closets flanking chimney |
| 12 of 13 | Second-floor room in original house, view to the east |
| 13 of 13 | Smokehouse, view to the northeast |

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

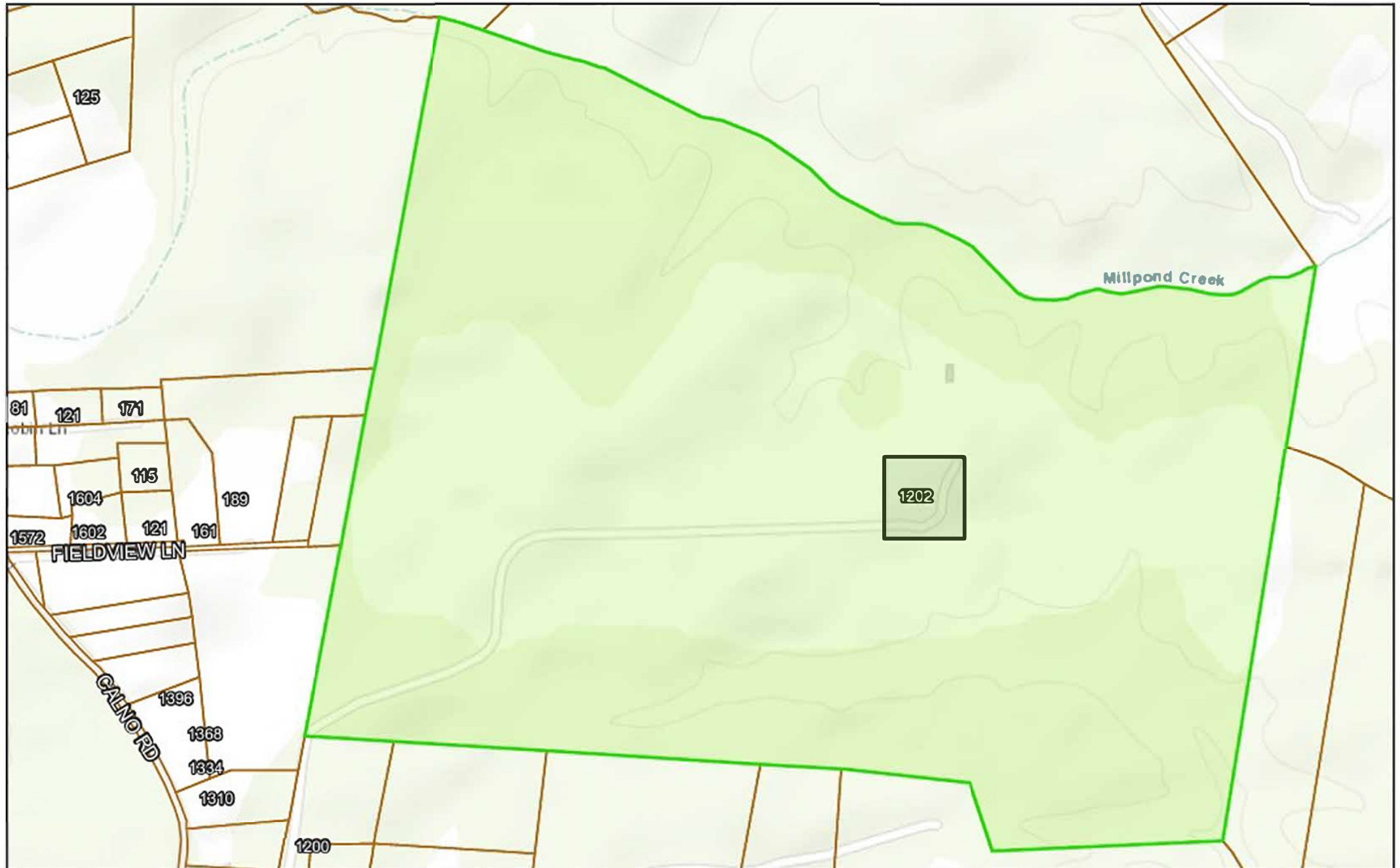
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
Tier 2 – 120 hours
Tier 3 – 230 hours
Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

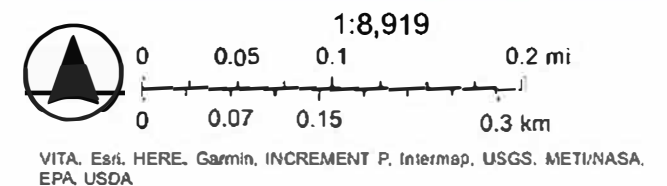
Location Map

Bear Garden (050-0005) 1202 Calno Road, King William County, VA



3/26/2025, <https://kingwilliam.civ.quest/>

-  Parcels
-  Road Names
-  NRHP Boundary



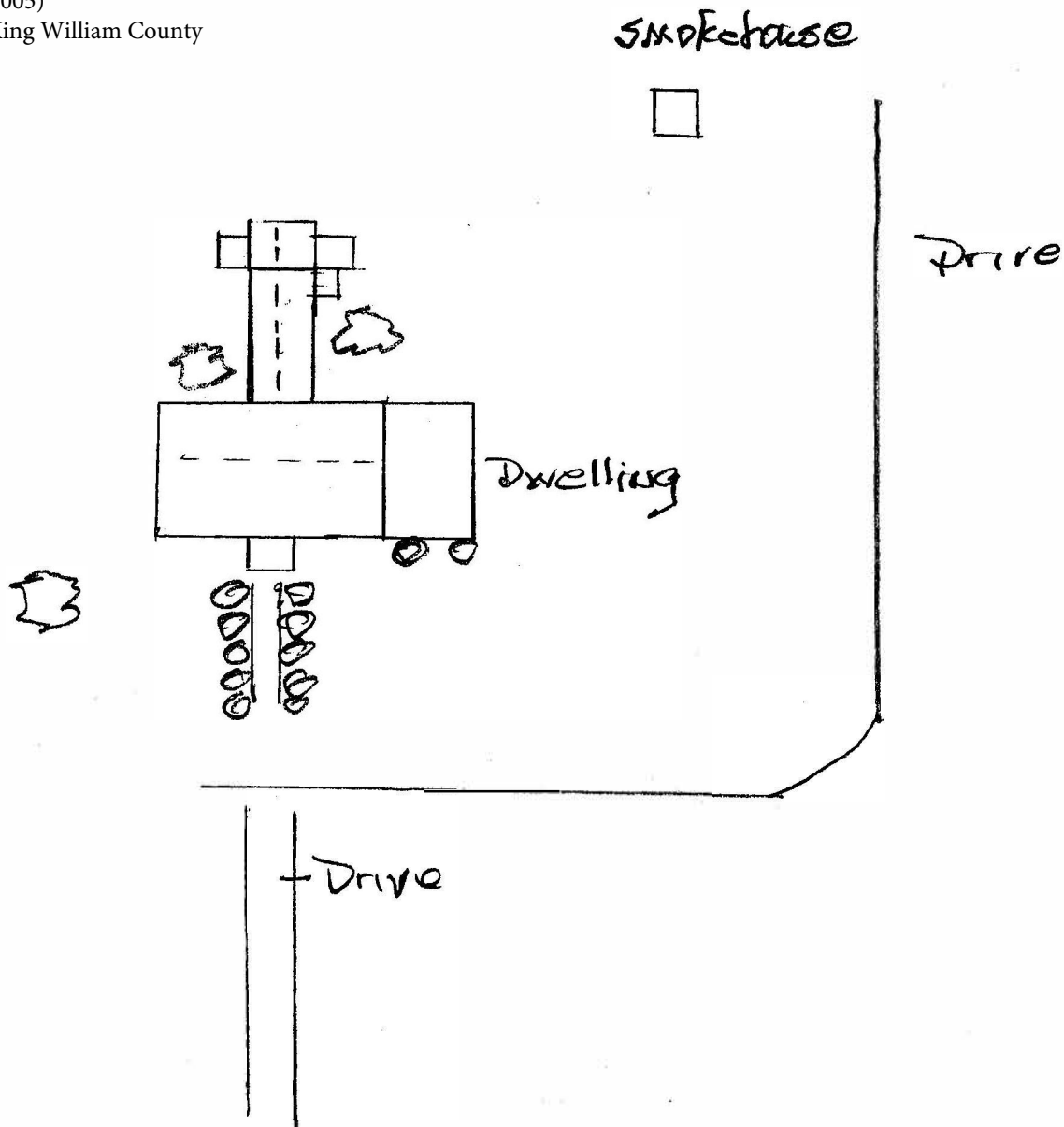
Sketch Map/Site Plan

Bear Garden (050-0005)

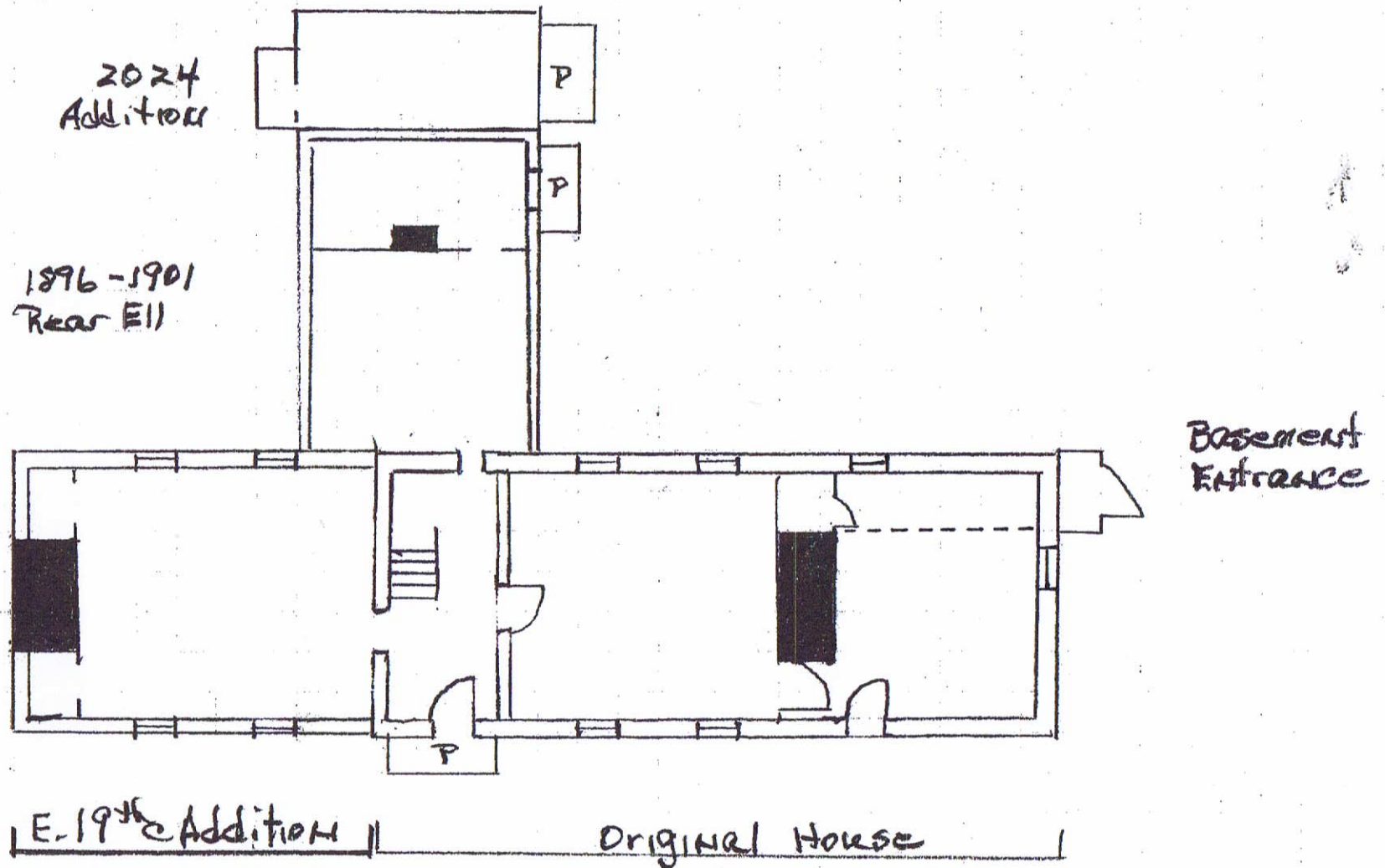
1202 Calno Road, King William County

NTS

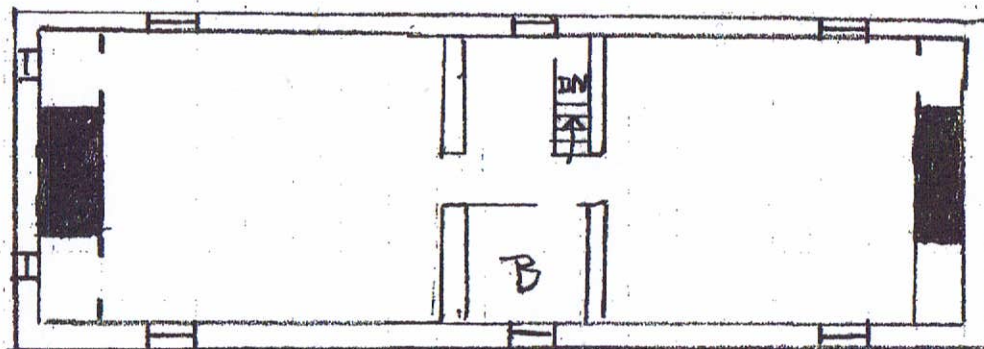
March 2025



Bear Garden 050-0005
King William Co. VA
First Floor Plan



Bear Garden DSD-0005
King William Co. Va
Second Floor Plan
Photo Point



Sketch Map/Site Plan

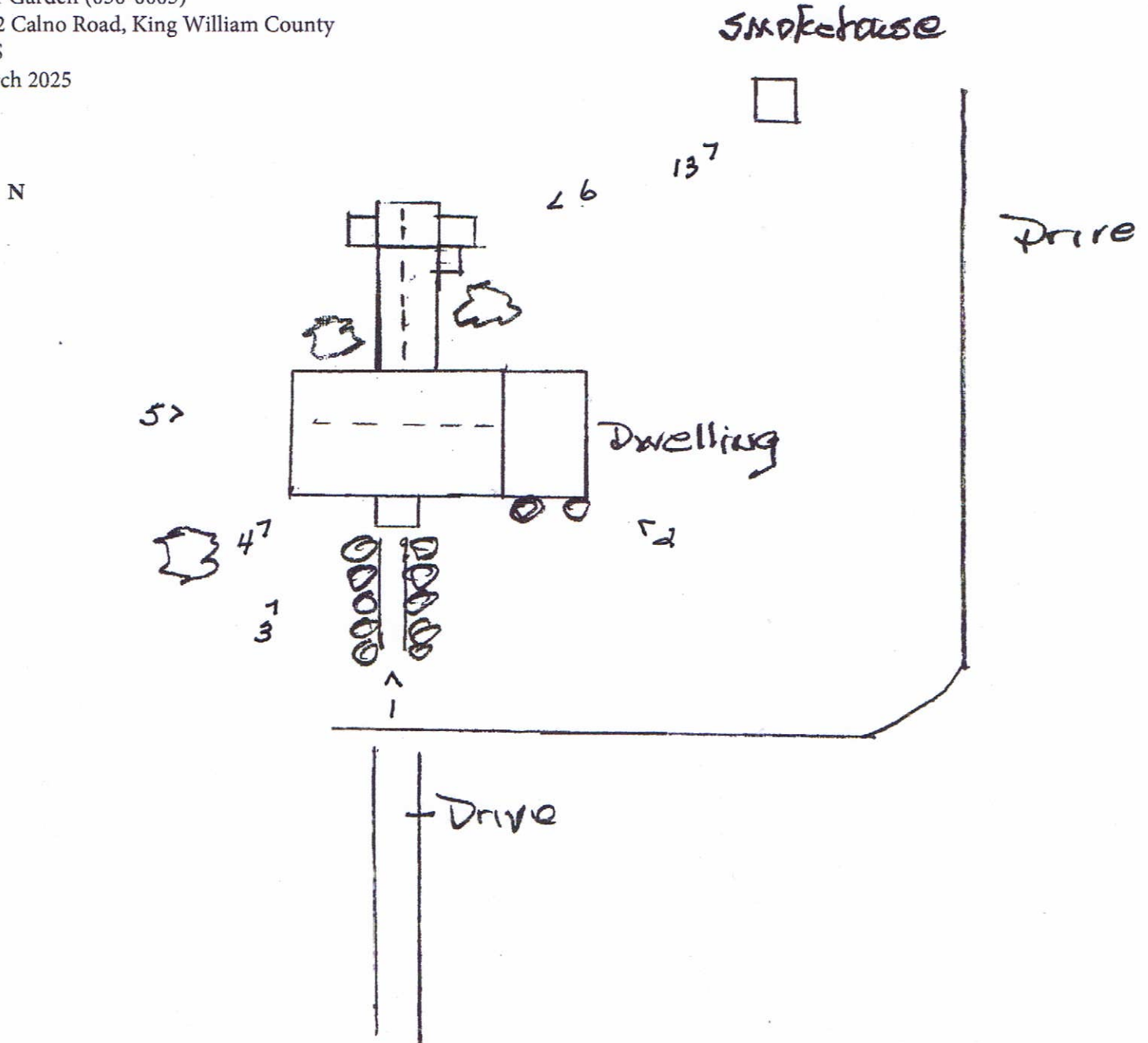
Bear Garden (050-0005)

1202 Calno Road, King William County

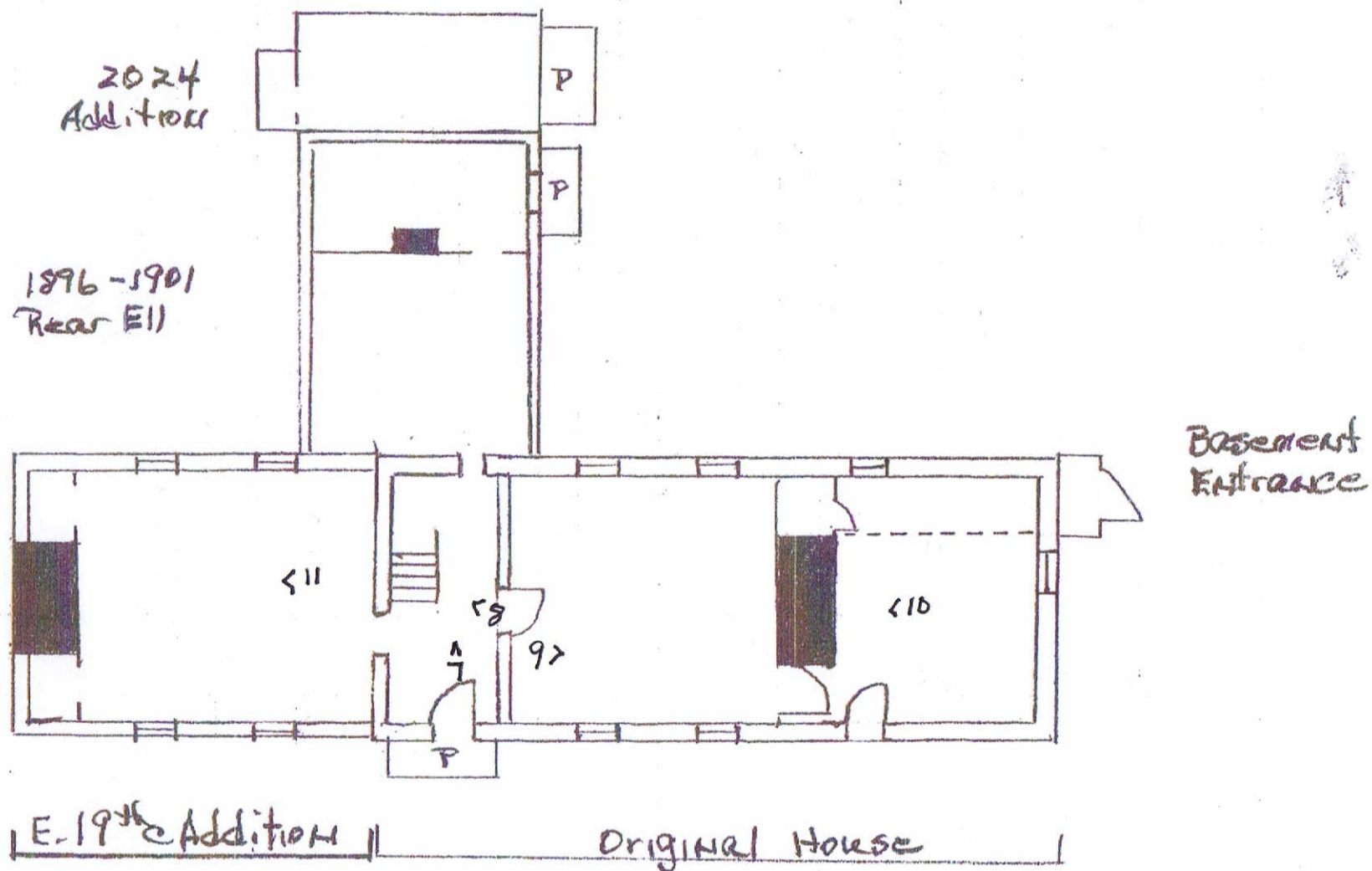
NTS

March 2025

Photo Points



Bear Garden 050-0005
King William Co. VA
First Floor Plan



Bear Garden DSD-0005
King William Co. Va
Second Floor Plan
Photo Point

