

Slave Housing Data Base

Building Name: Howard's Neck, Quarter B

Evidence Type: Extant

Historical Site Name: Howard's Neck

City or Vicinity: Pemberton (near Cartersville, and Goochland C.H.)

County: Goochland

State: Virginia

Investigators: Douglas W. Sanford; Dennis J. Pogue

Institutions: Center for Historic Preservation, UMW; Mount Vernon Ladies' Association

Project Start: 8/7/08

Project End: 8/7/08

Summary Description:

Howards' Neck Quarter B is a one-story, log duplex with a central chimney and side-gable roof, supported by brick piers, and is the second (or middle) of three surviving currently unoccupied quarters arranged in an east-west line positioned on a moderately western sloping ridge. The quarters are located several hundred yards southwest of the main house complex. The core of the structure consists of a hewn log crib, joined at the corners with v-notches, with a framed roof (replaced), and a modern porch on the front and shed addition to the rear. Wooden siding currently covers the exterior walls, but the log rear wall enclosed by the shed is exposed; it is whitewashed.

The original log core measures 31 ft. 9 in. (E-W) x 16 ft. 4 in. (N-S); the 20th-century rear addition is 11 ft. 8 in. wide (N-S) x 31 ft. 9 in. long (E-W). A doorway allows direct access between the two main rooms, which may be an original feature; a doorway connecting the log core with the rear shed has been cut by enlarging an original window opening in Room 1. As originally constructed, the structure consisted of two first-floor rooms, with exterior doorways in the south facade and single windows opposite the doorways in the rear wall. A window with a surviving bracket to accommodate a sliding shutter is located in the rear wall of Room 2, and it appears to be original, thus suggesting that all of the other sash windows are replacements or new insertions. The logs are hewn on two faces and the moderately wide spaces between the logs are chinked with stone. Remnants of whitewash survives on all of the interior surfaces. Currently the attic is accessed via a ladder stair from the southwest corner of Room 2, but it cannot be determined whether access to the attic was an original feature.

Notes:

Information recorded here does not cover the modern (20th-century) rear addition, or the shed roof porch located on the front (south side), supported by cinderblock piers and with a standing seam metal roof, that also likely dates to the 20th century.

The entire roof structure appears to have been replaced. Some rafters look circular sawn, some pit or sash sawn, but the feet of the rafters rest on circular sawn and wire-nailed garret floor boards. The partition in the garret apparently dates to the changes to the roof. It is situated west

of the chimney stack, with horizontal flush boards that are circular sawn and fastened to the studs with wire nails. The stairs in Room 2 may be a later insertion as well; no evidence for a stair was found in Room 1.

Note two sets of peg holes in the log at window level on the north wall in both Rooms 1 and 2, presumably to support shelf boards.

Note Roman numerals (I – IV carpenter marks) on the exterior face of logs at west side of Door 3 (Room 1), suggesting that the door was created by enlarging an original window, that appears to have been the same size as Window 3 (Room 2). Similar marks were found at the east side of Window 3.

The ceiling joists in Room 1 are 7-10 in. in diameter, left in the round, except for the end joists and at the chimney, which are hewn on two sides (like the side wall logs). Center-to-center, the joists range from 32 in., 34 in., 36 in., to 37 in. apart. The floor joists also are in the round, with bark, with flattened top surfaces.

Bibliography:

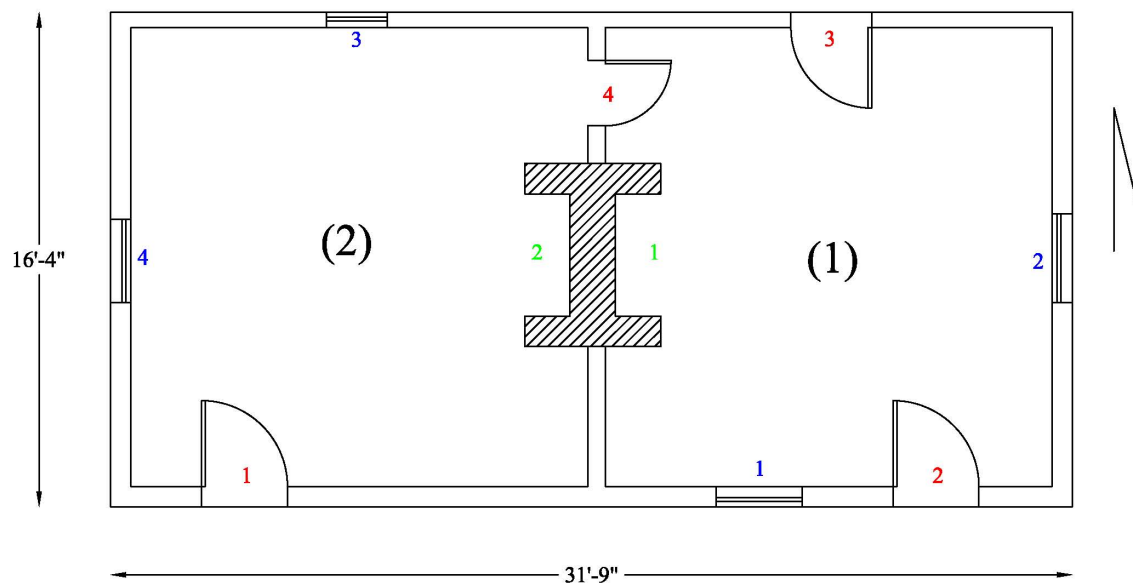
See Colonial Williamsburg Foundation drawings (1983) for full measurements of rooms and other details.

Dell Upton, *Slave Housing in 18th-Century Virginia* (1982) and *White and Black Landscapes in Eighteenth-Century Virginia* (1988).

Principal Construction Type: Log

One Story – With Garret (possibly just an attic, originally)

Period I Footprint:



Number of Rooms: 2 rooms on first floor, possibly only attic space above

Dimensions: (1) 14 ft. 10 in. (N-S) x 14 ft. 11 in. (E-W)
 (2) 15 ft. 0 in. (N-S) x 15 ft. 0 in. (E-W)

Doors: 5

	Rm. 2 (1)	Rm. 1 (2)	Rm. 1 (3)
Type:	Board & batten (with wrought & wire nails)	Board & batten	Board & batten; wire nails
Dimensions:	Opening measures 2 ft. 11 in. (W) x 5 ft. 5.5 in. (H)	2 ft. 11 in. (W) x 5 ft. 4 in. (H)	2 ft. 7.5 in. x 6 ft. 10 in.
Hardware:	Modern butt/butterfly hinges	Modern butt hinges, wire nails; note earlier butt hinges & pintles	Modern butterfly & butt hinges
Swing:	In	In	In
Replacement:	Likely a refitted door; Jamb notched into top log	Yes; jambs notched into top log	Later insertion for rear addition

	(4)	(5)
Type:	Board & batten	Not a door; just a passage
Dimensions:	2 ft. 1.75 in. (W) x 5 ft. 3.5 in. (H)	1 ft. 6.75 in. (W) x 5 ft. 6.5 in. (H)
Hardware:	Modern butterfly hinges; wire nails	None
Swing:	In (to Room 1)	N/A
Replacement:	Later insertion through original log wall	North side of garret partition

Windows: 6

	Rm. 1 (1)	Rm. 1 (2)	Rm. 2 (3)
Type:	Double hung sash; 6/6	Double hung sash; 6/6	Slide; old frame with pegs & spikes
Dimensions:	Opening: 3 ft. 0.5 in. (W) x 4 ft. 9.5 in. (H) Sash: 2 ft. 8 in. (W) x 4 ft. 5.5 in (H)	Opening: 3 ft. 2.5 in. (W) x 4 ft. 10.5 in. (H) Sash: 2 ft. 9 in. x 4 ft. 6 in. (H)	Opening: 2 ft. x 2 ft.
Hardware:	None	None	None
Shuttered/ Slide/ Swing:	Notched into log at top & bottom No shutter	No shutters Wire nails	Jambs notched into logs; current slide with wire nails

	Rm. 2 (4)	W. Garret (5)	E. Garret (6)
Type:	Double hung sash; 6/6	Single hung sash; 4 panes	Probably single hung sash; no sash, blocked up
Dimensions:	Opening: 3 ft. 2 in. (W) x 4 ft. 10.5 in. (H) Sash: 2 ft. 10 in. (W) x 4 ft. 6.5 in. (H)	1 ft. 11 in. (W) x 1 ft. 8 in. (H)	1 ft. 11 in. (W) x 1 ft. 6 in. (H)
Hardware:	None	None	None
Shuttered/ Slide/ Swing:	No shutters	All wire nails; likely later insertion between studs	N/A

EXTERIOR

Foundation:

Masonry Piers: Brick (original portion of building, although rebuilt; whereas stone piers for the rear addition)

Number: 6

Dimensions: SE corner pier, L-shaped: 17 in. (N-S) x 18 in. (E-W), 8.5 in. thick; South center pier, rectangular: 34 in. (E-W) x 8.5 in. wide (N-S); SW corner pier, L-shaped: 21 in. (E-W) x 21 in. (N-S), 8.5 in. thick

Height: 36 in. (SW pier); 37 in. (NW pier).

Mortar Type: Sand (Portland cement for repair/rebuilding)

Joint: Flush
Repaired: Yes

Porch: Yes (on front/south side of building; modern addition, measures 6 ft. deep (N-S) by 31 ft. 6 in. across (E-W)).

Roof: Roof rise over run: 12:12. Running west to east, center to center, rafter pairs at 34 in.; 35 in.; 36 in.; 33 in., 32 in.; 17 in.; 18 in.; 36 in. apart

Roof Form: Gable

Roof Covering: Slate

Roof Framing: Untapered rafters are butted and spiked to a board plate

Exposed: Yes

Form: Common Rafters

Rafter Number: 13 pairs

Rafter Dimensions: vary, from 3.5 to 4 in. x 2.5 to 3 in.

Collar Ties: Yes (but not for each pair, present on 2nd, 3rd, and 5th rafter pairs from east end; and on 3rd and 5th from west end).

Collar Dimensions: 2.5 – 3 in. (W) x 3.5 – 4 in. (H)

Method of Joining: half lapped & spiked (square, machine-cut nails)

Height from Roof Peak: 2 ft. 6 in. (from bottom of collar)

Height to Floor: 6 ft. 7 in. (from bottom of collar)

Building Height: at SE corner (east gable end for apex measurements)

Ground to Soffit: 8 ft. 8 in. (bottom of joist)

Siding to Soffit: 7 ft. 2 5/8 in.

Ground to Apex: 18 ft. 7 5/8 in.

Siding to Apex: 17 ft. 0 in.

Ground to Top of Eave: 9 ft. 4 5/8"

Siding to Top of Eave: 7 ft. 11 3/8"

Walls:

Log: Exterior (later) cladding of circular sawn, horizontal boards with wire nails

Dimensions: ranging from 8 to 8 ½ in. to 10 in. (most commonly)

Finish: Hewn (2 sides; round top and bottom, except top log)

Notching: Lapped (rectangular ends)

Chinking: Composite (stones & mud) – mostly stone, some brick & mud

Chimney(s):

Chimney (1): Stone foundation

Material: Brick (above stone foundation)

Location: Interior/ Center

Height: 23 ft. 4 in. (from base of foundation; taken from 1983 CWF drawing).

INTERIOR

Wall Framing: Log

Wall Finish: Whitewash

Fireplace (1): Center, Room 1

Fireplace Material: Brick
Fireplace Overall Dimensions: 5 ft. 11 in. wide
Fireplace Opening Dimensions: 3 ft. 8.5 in. (W); 3 ft. 7 in. (H); 1 ft. 5 in. deep
Hearth Material: Brick
Hearth Dimensions: Removed; opening: 5 ft. 11 in. (L) x 2 ft. 2 in. (W)

Fireplace (2): Center, Room 2

Fireplace Material: Brick
Fireplace Overall Dimensions: 5 ft. 11 in. wide
Fireplace Opening Dimensions: 3 ft. 8.5 in. (W); 3 ft. 7 in. (H); 1 ft. 5 in. deep
Hearth Material: Brick
Hearth Dimensions: Removed

Stairs: Yes (only in Room 2; modern insertion); foot of stairs at south wall measures 23 in. wide

Type: Ladder

Stairwell Dimensions: 4 ft. 2.5 in. (N-S) x 1 ft. 11 in. (E-W)

Number of Treads: 9

Stair Tread Dimensions: 20.75 in. (L) x 8 in. (W) x 10.75, 9, 10.5 in. (H)

Subfloor Pit: No

Floor: Wood (Room 2)

Floorboards Dimension: 8 in. wide; butted, surface nailed.

Dating:

Dendrochronology Date: NA

Other Date: Second quarter 19th century

Dating Evidence:

Saw Marks: Pit-sawn and hewn materials in original construction; circular-sawn material in later additions and alterations (garret, exterior siding).

Nails: Machine cut and headed (original construction); wire (later alterations).