

Slave Housing Data Base

Building Name: Brookview Farm, Building 3

Evidence Type: Extant

Site ID: 037-5012

Historical Site Name: Dover Plantation

City or Vicinity: Crozier

County: Goochland

State: Virginia

Investigators: Dennis J. Pogue, Douglas W. Sanford

Institutions: Virginia Slave Housing Project

Project Start: 6/2/20 [6/11/20] **Project End:** 6/11/20

Summary Description:

Designated as Building 3 within the Brookview Farm complex of four slave quarters, this one-story, two-bay, brick structure has a central interior chimney, with a hipped roof covered with standing seam sheet metal. The structure measures roughly 15.1.0 by 30.3.2 feet; the walls are laid in 5:1 common bond. The plan consisted of two rooms of roughly equal size and follows a duplex design, with two exterior doorways in the south-facing façade providing separate entry into the spaces, with no interior communication. The brick medial wall was more than five feet thick, and incorporated a pair of unusually large fireplaces, with openings measuring 11 feet wide. A single window was centered in each bay in the north wall; the west window has been converted into a doorway. The surviving remnants of the window frame in the east room indicate that it incorporated horizontal bars across the lower two-thirds of the opening, with a fixed sash above. There is no evidence of a stair to provide access to the attic, and none to indicate that it was ever occupied. Documentary evidence suggests a construction date of ca. 1843 for all of the buildings in the complex, which is supported by the presence of sashsawn framing members and mature cut nails.

In the post-Civil War era, alterations to the building included converting the west window opening into a doorway, widening the exterior doors, and replacing the original wood shingle roof with sheet metal. On the interior, the fireplaces and nearly all of the medial wall was removed, and a central brick chimney was installed to service flues for iron stoves.

Bibliography:

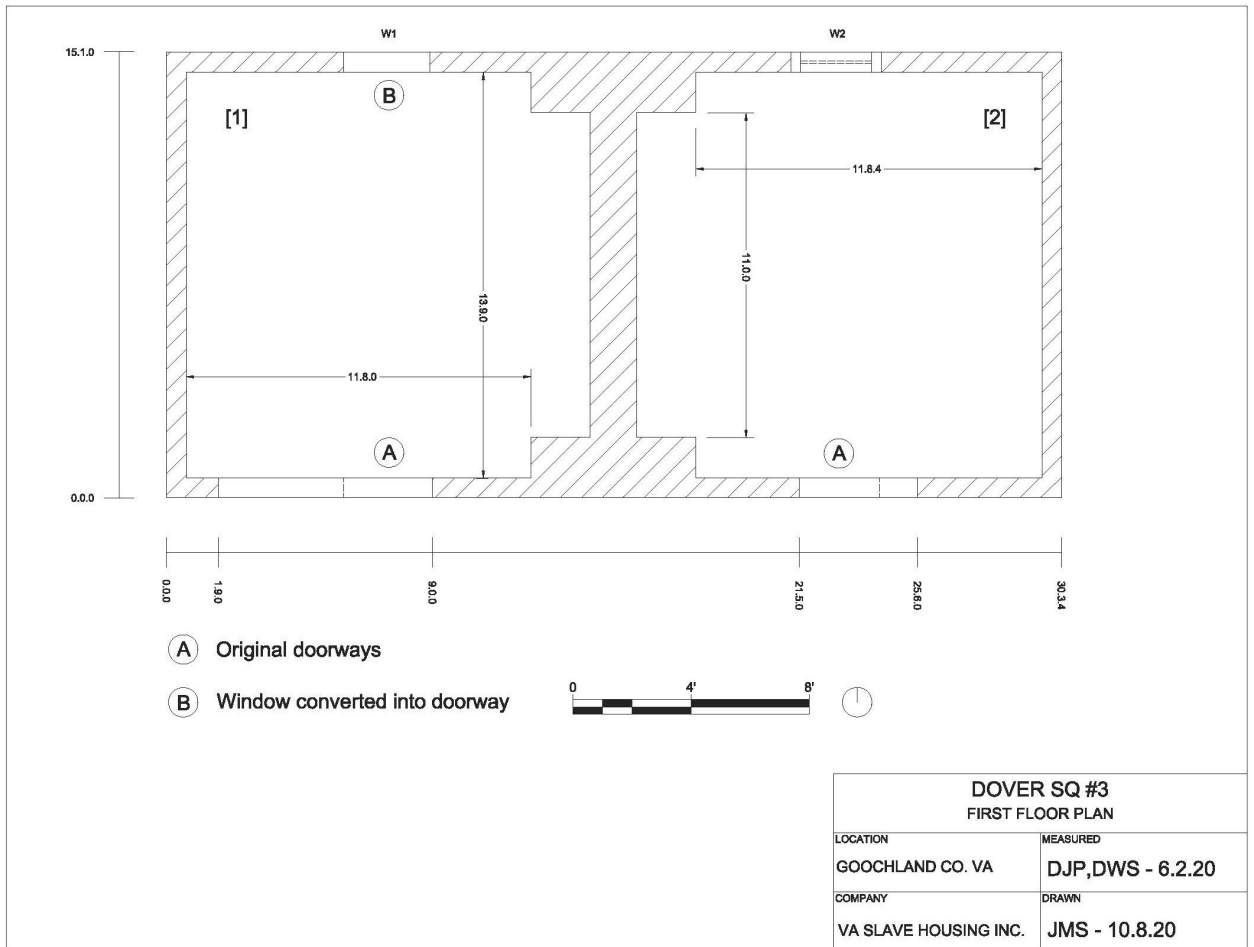
Architectural historians from the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation recorded this building in 1983, designated Building D, along with the other slave quarters at Brookview Farm, formerly part of Dover plantation.

Chappell, Edward, "Housing Slavery," in *The Chesapeake House* (2013), edited by Cary Carson and Carl Lounsbury, pp. 175-176.

Dover Slave Quarter Complex, *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*
(2002)

Principal Construction Type: Masonry – Brick
One Story – With Attic

Footprint: 30.3.2 x 15.1.0



Number of Rooms: 2

Dimensions: (1) West, 14.0.0 (N-S) x 11.8.3 (E-W), 7.3.0 (H)
(2) East, 14.0.0 (N-S) x 11.8.0 (E-W), 7.3.0 (H)

Doors: 3

	Rm. 1, N (1)	Rm. 2, S (2)	Rm. 1, S (3)
Type:	Board and batten (with wire nails)	2/2 panel	Board and batten double door (with wire nails)
Dimensions:	2.6.2 (W) x 6.1.0 (H); originally 2.11.0 (W)	3.6.0 (W) x 6.5.1 (H), 0.1.3 thick	6.7.0 (W) x 6.6.0 (W)
Hardware:	Removed	Small butt/strap hinge (replacement)	Butt/strap hinge
Swing:	In	In	Out
Replacement:	Later insertion, originally a window location	Replacement door and frame	Later insertion and widening

Windows: 1

	Rm. 2, N (1)
Type:	Barred, 7 bars (1 inch square bars)
Dimensions:	2.6.0 (W) x 3.10.0 (H); originally 4.0.0 (H)
Hardware:	None
Shuttered/Slide/Swing:	Shuttered (replacement); swings out

EXTERIOR

Foundation:

Continuous Masonry: Brick
Thickness: 0.9.0
Height: Not applicable
Bond: Common (5:1)

Mortar Type: Sand
Joint: Overhand struck
Repaired: Yes

Shed/Porch: No

Roof:

Roof Form: Hipped
Roof Covering: Standing seam sheet metal
Roof Framing:
Exposed: Yes
Form: Common Rafters
Rafter Number: 12 pairs
Rafter Dimensions:
Collar Ties: No

The sash sawn rafter pairs meet at a narrow ridgeboard measuring 0.6.0 high by 0.2.0 thick, with the rafter feet resting on a flat false plate, measuring 0.10.0 wide and 7/8^{ths} inches thick. At the ends of the hipped roof, the outriggers are tenoned into the ceiling joists. On the exterior, the roof's eaves extend out 1.3.0 from the building's walls, on all sides.

The distance from the top of the floor joists to the roof peak is 8.0.0. The roof pitch is 11 over 12 inches. For each hip there are 6 rafters and 8 outriggers.

The ceiling joists measure 0.3.2 to 0.4.0 wide and 0.5.2 to 0.6.0 high. These joists are sash sawn.

Building Height: @ SW corner
Ground to Soffit: 7.4.0
Ground to Top of Eave: 7.9.1

Walls:

Masonry: Brick
Number of Courses: Not applicable
Bond: Common (5:1)
Mortar Type: Sand
Joint: Overhand struck
Repaired: Yes

Chimney(s):

Chimney (1): Removed, replaced with 20th-century chimney for stove flues
Material: Brick
Location: Interior – Center
Height: not accessible

INTERIOR

Wall Framing: Not applicable

Wall Finish: Whitewash on brick (2 layers of whitewash)

Fireplace (1): End – Center – Altered (removed)

Fireplace Material: Brick

Fireplace Overall Dimensions: 13.8.0

Fireplace Opening Dimensions: 11.0.0 (N-S) x 2.0.0 (E-W), unknown height

Hearth Material: Brick

Hearth Dimensions: Continuous

Fireplace (2): End – Center – Altered (removed)

Fireplace Material: Brick

Fireplace Overall Dimensions: 13.8.0

Fireplace Opening Dimensions: 11.0.0 (N-S) x 2.1.0 (E-W), unknown height

Hearth Material: Brick

Hearth Dimensions: Continuous

Where it attaches to the front and rear walls, the medial wall is roughly 5.6.0 thick (E-W). Remnants of the medial wall survive on both the north and south walls. Paint ghosts suggest that the upper face of the medial wall may have been wood, extending from the top of the mass to the bottom of the joists. Several courses of the fireplace mass (and medial wall) survive projecting from both walls, indicating that the cheeks were 1.4.0 wide and 2.1.0 deep, extending into both rooms. The medial wall at floor level, separating the fire boxes, was 1.6.0 thick. The clear space between the cheeks is 11.0.0, which indicates the overall width of the fireplace opening in each room.

Stairs: None

Subfloor Pit: No

Floor: Brick

Dating:

Dendrochronology Date: NA

Other Date: ca. 1842-43 (documentary evidence)

Dating Evidence:

Saw Marks: Sash Sawn

Nails: Mature cut