

Slave Housing Data Base

Building Name: Brookview Farm, Building 4

Evidence Type: Extant

Site ID: 037-5012

Historical Site Name: Dover Plantation

City or Vicinity: Crozier

County: Goochland

State: Virginia

Investigators: Douglas W. Sanford, Dennis J. Pogue

Institutions: Virginia Slave Housing Project

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

Summary Description:

Designated as Building 4 within the Brookview Farm complex of four slave quarters, this one-story, brick structure has two bays on its south-facing façade, a hipped roof covered with standing seam sheet metal, and a central interior chimney. The exterior brick walls are laid in combination of 5:1 and 6:1 common bond. Measuring 15.1.0 by 36.5.0 feet, Building 4 has a duplex design, with two exterior doors providing separate entry into the two rooms, which had no interior communication given the solid brick medial wall which incorporated the fireplaces in each room. As with the other duplex-style quarters at Brookview Farm, this building had unusually large fireplaces, with an opening measuring 11 feet across. The medial wall and fireplace cheeks are 5.5 feet wide where it joins the north and south walls.

Each room had a single window on the rear (north) wall. Originally, both windows had horizontal bars across the lower two-thirds, with likely a fixed sash in the upper third. The attic was not utilized during the period of slavery and no evidence of stairs was found in either room. Building 4 is dated ca. 1842-43, based on documentary evidence and the presence of sash-sawn joists and fully mature machine-cut nails.

In the post-Civil War era, alterations to the building included converting one window into a doorway and replacing the original wood shingle roof with a sheet metal covering. On the interior, nearly all of the medial wall – and the fireplaces – were removed. The entire brick front wall was removed as well and supported with timbers, and the building was widened slightly with a frame addition running the entire length of the front. Widening the footprint allowed the structure to serve as storage for automobiles. A frame shed-roofed addition runs the length of the rear wall. The eastern end of the building (roughly 10 feet) was partitioned to create a chicken house in concert with the rear shed.

Bibliography:

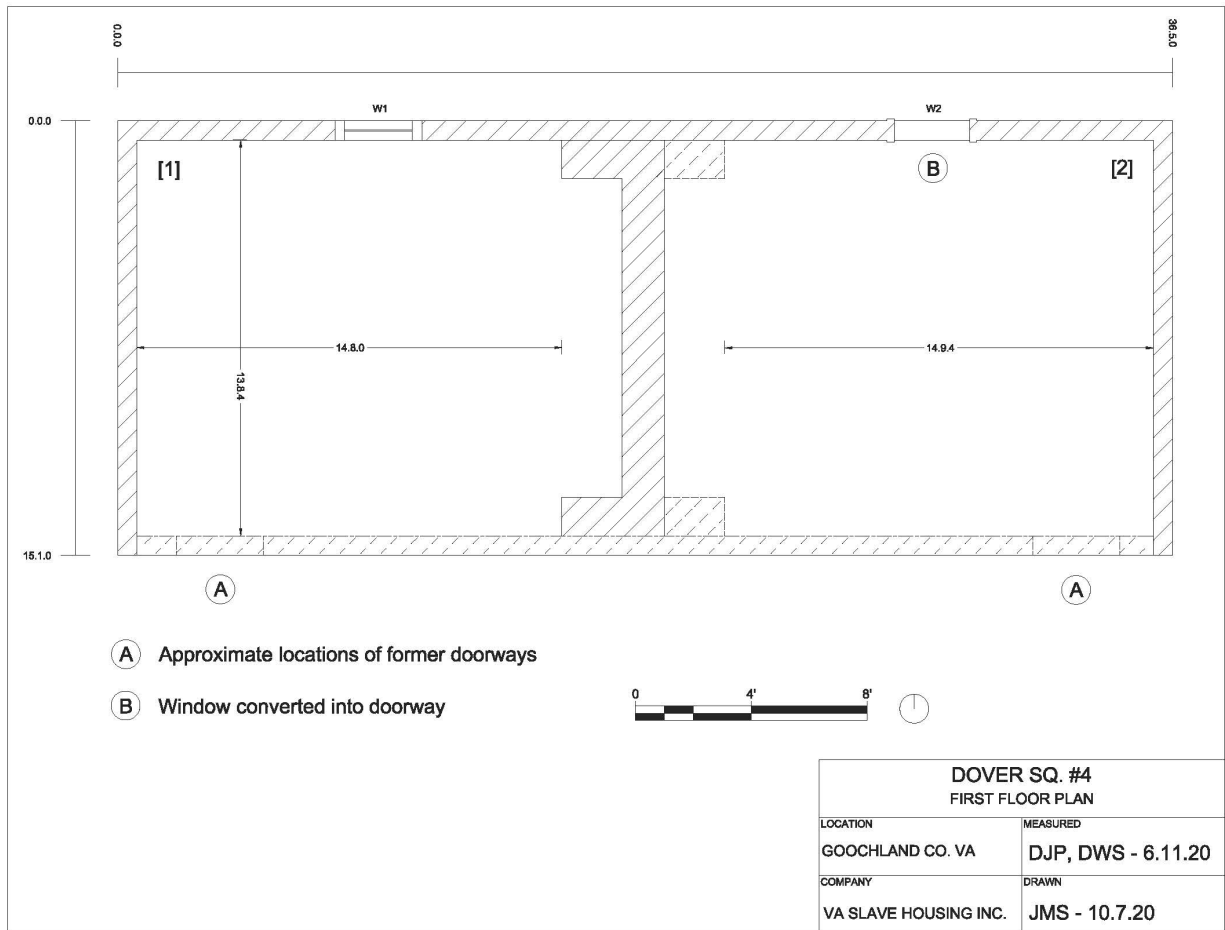
Chappell, Edward, "Housing Slavery," in *The Chesapeake House*, edited by Cary Carson and Carl Lounsbury, pp. 175-176.

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

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.

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

Footprint:



Rooms: 2

Dimensions:

(1) West: 13.8.2 (N-S) x 14.8.0 (E-W), 6.10.0 (H, from current brick floor to bead board ceiling)

(2) East: 13.8.2 (N-S) x 14.9.2 (E-W), 6.10.0 (H, from current brick floor to bead board ceiling)

Doors: 1 (the original south façade doors have been removed); later modern doors not recorded

Rm. 2, N (1)

Type:	Board and batten (with wire nails)
Dimensions:	2.11.3 (W) x 5.8.0 (H)
Hardware:	Reused butterfly hinges
Swing:	In
Replacement:	Later insertion; original window location

Windows: 1

Rm. 1, N (1)

Type:	Barred (bottom two-thirds of opening)
Dimensions:	2.4.2 (W) x 3.9.0 (H)
Hardware:	None
Shuttered/Slide/Swing:	Exterior shutter, with 2 pintles on east side; swings out

EXTERIOR

Foundation:

Continuous Masonry: Brick

Thickness: 0.9.0

Height: Not applicable

Bond: Common (5:1 on long walls, 6:1 end walls)

Mortar Type: Sand
Joint: Overhand struck
Repaired: Yes

Shed: Yes – modern additions on front and rear – related to conversion of building to chickenhouse and workshop and garage.

Location: Not shown

Roof:

Roof Form: Hipped

Roof Covering: Standing seam sheet metal

Roof Framing:

Exposed: Yes

Form: Common Rafters

Rafter Number: 14 pairs

Rafter Dimensions: 0.4.0 x 0.3.1

Collar Ties: No (not originally, some added in modern era)

The rafters are sash sawn and join at a thin ridge board measuring 0.6.0 high by 0.2.0 thick. There is no evidence for original collars, whereas the current ones are later in date and circular sawn. The false plate measures 0.10.0 wide and 7/8^{ths} inches thick. 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 for Rooms 1 and 2 are hewn and sash sawn, measuring 0.6.0 x 0.3.3. Some joists have machine-cut nails on top. Many of the joists are whitewashed on their sides, mostly on the west side.

Building Height: @ NW corner

Ground to Soffit: 8.2.3

Ground to Top of Eave: 8.9.1

Walls:

Masonry: Brick

Number of Courses: Not applicable

Bond: Common, 5: 1 and 6:1

Mortar Type: Sand

Joint: Overhand struck

Repaired: Yes

On the exterior of the brick north wall there is a red wash on top of the exterior whitewash.

Chimney(s):

Chimney (1): removed in modern era

Material: Brick

Location: Interior – Center

Height: NA

INTERIOR

Wall Framing: Not applicable

Wall Finish: Whitewash on plaster, on brick

The interior brick walls have two layers of whitewash on top of a layer of plaster (clay-based), which appears to be original.

Fireplace (1): Center – Removed

Fireplace Material: Brick

Fireplace Overall Dimensions: 13.8.0

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

Hearth Material: Brick

Hearth Dimensions: Continuous

Fireplace (2): End – Center – Removed

Fireplace Material: Brick

Fireplace Overall Dimensions: 13.8.0

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

Hearth Material: Brick

Hearth Dimensions: Continuous

Stairs: No

Subfloor Pit: No

Floor: Brick, a later insertion

Dating:

Dendrochronology Date: NA

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

Dating Evidence:

Saw Marks: Sash Sawn

Nails: Mature cut