

## Virginia Slave Housing Project

**Building Name:** New Market Plantation Brick Duplex

**Evidence Type:** Extant

**Site ID:** 016-0281

**Historical Site Name:** New Market Plantation

**City:** Bowling Green vicinity

**County:** Caroline

**State:** Virginia

**Investigators:** Douglas W. Sanford, Dennis J. Pogue

**Institutions:** Virginia Slave Housing Project

**Project Start:** 3/1/22, 3/16/22

**Project End:** 3/16/22

### Summary Description:

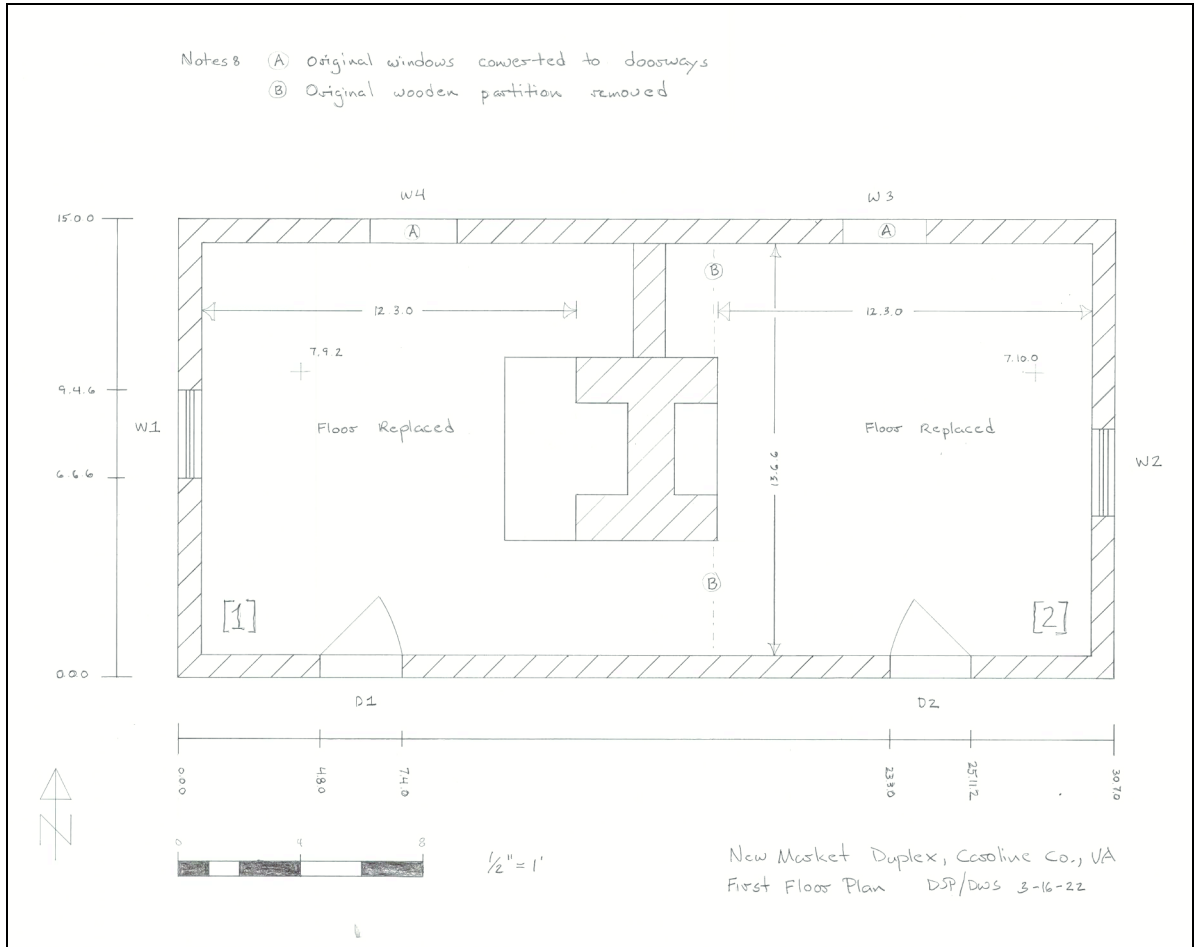
The former duplex slave quarter at New Market Plantation is located approximately one-half mile from the main house complex. The brick, one-story, two-bay structure is approximately 30'6" by 14'5" in dimension, with walls laid in 5 to 1 common bond. The quarter was originally covered with a side-gable roof. The interior center chimney serves a fireplace in each of the two first-floor rooms, which were entered from the exterior by separate doorways symmetrically positioned on the south-facing façade. As constructed, there was no access between the rooms, which thus served as a double-quarters for separate enslaved households. One window is roughly centered on each end wall, and a single window was centered on the north wall of each of the rooms, which have been converted to doorways. There is no evidence to indicate that access to the attic was ever provided. The ceiling joists are exposed and are whitewashed along with the brick walls.

Significant modifications to the structure included removing and replacing the roof to accommodate a substantial structure that was added to what had been the rear of the quarter. The form was changed from a moderately-pitched side-gable running east-west to a north-south gable that covers the entire enlarged structure. The ghosts of the rafter feet from their attachment to a partially surviving flat false plate indicate the roughly 4'-spacing of the rafter pairs, which matches the layout of the ceiling joists. The ceiling joists had projected several inches past the wall face and have been cut off, along with a portion of the false plate. When the direction of the roof was changed, short joists were installed on the east and west to act as outriggers to support the new rafters and the projecting roof overhang. On the interior, the original wood partition walls were removed, allowing access between the rooms along the front wall; a brick wall was laid up on the north to replace the earlier board wall. The original window openings on the north wall were enlarged into doorways, which now provide direct access between the quarter and the addition. After the structure was expanded, porches with shed roofs and concrete floors were added to the east and south elevations.

**Principal Construction Type: Brick**

**One Story – With Attic**

**Footprint:**



**Number of Rooms: 2**

**Dimensions:** (1) West: 13.6.3 (N-S) x 12.1.1 (E-W, to chimney face), 7.9.1 (H, to bottom of ceiling joists)  
(2) East: 13.6.3 (N-S) x 12.3.0 (E-W, to chimney face), 7.10.0 (H, to bottom of ceiling joists). 14.0.0 (E-W, from room's NE corner to brick medial "wall").

**Doors:** 2 [2 doorways on north wall are later insertions at original window locations].

	<b>Rm. 1, S (1)</b>	<b>Rm. 2, S (2)</b>
<b>Type:</b>	Board and batten	Board and batten
<b>Dimensions:</b>	2.8.0 (W) x 5.10.1 (H)	2.8.2 (W) x 5.10.1 (H)
<b>Hardware:</b>	Not applicable	Not applicable
<b>Swing:</b>	In	In
<b>Replacement:</b>	Replacement (reused door)	Replacement (reused door)

**Windows:** 4

	<b>Rm. 1, W (1)</b>	<b>Rm. 1, N (2)</b>	<b>Rm. 2, N (3)</b>
<b>Type:</b>	Single-hung sash, 6/6	Unknown, removed	Unknown, removed
<b>Dimensions:</b>	2.9.0 (W) x 4.6.0 (H)	~2.10.1 (W, jamb to jamb) x 4.8.2 (H, from base of jamb to bottom of header)	Unknown, removed (see Window 2)
<b>Hardware:</b>	None	Unknown	Unknown
<b>Shuttered/Slide/Swing:</b>	Not applicable	Unknown; original window location, later turned into doorway, 2.5.0 (W) x 6.7.1 (H)	Unknown; original window location, later turned into doorway, 2.8.1 (W) x 6.10.1 (H)

**Rm. 2, E (4)**

<b>Type:</b>	Single-hung sash, 6/6
<b>Dimensions:</b>	2.9.0 (W) x 4.6.1 (H)
<b>Hardware:</b>	None
<b>Shuttered/ Slide/ Swing:</b>	Not applicable

EXTERIOR

**Foundation:**

**Continuous Masonry:** Brick  
**Thickness:** Not accessible

**Porch:** Two later porches on south façade and east gable end, with concrete floors (not recorded)

**Roof:**

**Roof Form:** Side gable, axis oriented east-west (roof framing completely removed, with only remnants of nails and ghost marks indicating the locations of the rafter feet.)

**Roof Covering:** Unknown, removed

**Roof Framing:**

**Exposed:** No, removed

**Form:** Common rafters (as indicated by nails for rafter feet)

**Rafter Number:** 15

**Rafter Dimensions:** Unknown

**Collar Ties:** Unknown

The ceiling joists are a mix of sash- and pit-sawn members that measure 0.4.0 (W) x 0.6.2 – 0.7.0 (H). The joists are set apart at a greater than usual distance: 3.6.2 from inside to inside, on approximately 3.11.0 centers (4.4.0 from outside to outside). The ceiling joists of both rooms are whitewashed. The unusually wide spacing of the joists likely relates to the lack of access to the attic, and thus no live load transferred to the flooring and the joists.

Nail holes revealed in the top surface of the surviving false plate on the north wall indicate that the rafters were attached with three nails every two feet.

**Building Height:**

**Ground to Top of Eave:** 8.8.0 (estimate, as original roof removed)

**Walls:**

**Masonry:** Brick (exterior wall at the NW corner has whitewash); 9" thick

**Bond:** Common (5:1)

**Mortar Type:** Sand

**Joint:** Unknown, not visible

**Repaired:** Yes

The upper portions of the brick end wall gables were removed when the roof was altered.

**Chimney(s):**

**Chimney (1):**

**Material:** Brick

**Location:** Interior/Center

**Height:** Not measured, inaccessible

INTERIOR

**Wall Material:** Exposed brick

**Wall Finish:** Whitewash, with later paint layers/colors

**Fireplace (1):** Center (east side of Room 1)

**Fireplace Material:** Brick

**Fireplace Overall Dimensions:** 6.0.4

**Fireplace Opening Dimensions:** 3.0.0 (W) x 2.5.0 (H) x 1.8.0 (D)

**Hearth Material:** Removed

**Hearth Dimensions:** 2.4.0 (E-W) x 6.0.2 (N-S)

**Fireplace (2):** Center (west side of Room 2)

**Fireplace Material:** Brick

**Fireplace Overall Dimensions:** 6.0.4

**Fireplace Opening Dimensions:** 3.1.0 (W) x 1.7.0 (H) x 1.5.0 (D)

**Hearth Material:** Removed

**Hearth Dimensions:** Unknown, removed/covered by modern floor

At its base, the central chimney measures 6.0.4 (N-S) x 4.5.0 (E-W). As it rises the chimney steps up and in twice to its narrower stack. Holes for woodstove pipes were inserted into the chimney above each fireplace.

**Stairs:** No

**Subfloor Pit:** No

**Floor:** Wood, modern replacement (plywood decking on replaced floor joists)

**Floorboards Dimension:** NA

**Dating:**

**Dendrochronology Date:** NA

**Other Date:** 1840-1860

**Dating Evidence:**

**Saw Marks:** Joists hewn and pitsawn and sash sawn

**Nails:** Mature Machine Cut

**Bricks:** 5 to 1 bond

## Notes

A compass reading taken at the building's SW corner, looking towards the NW corner, produced a bearing of 335<sup>0</sup>.

Some of the "earlier" circular-sawn flooring boards in Room 1 could be original.

On the northern side of the central chimney is a brick medial wall that is a later insertion, as it abuts both the chimney's north face and the south face of the north wall. Based on the presence of empty mortises for former wall studs, the rooms were separated by a wooden partition (medial) wall, situated directly east of the brick medial wall.

On the north wall of Room 1 is a former, original window location that later was altered into a doorway. The window jambs survive, allowing an estimate of the width and height of the original opening. The jambs were set into the wall's brickwork and their bottoms ended on a ledge about two feet above the floor.

In Room 2 a series of empty mortises on the bottom of the ceiling joist indicates the locations of studs anchoring the former, wooden partition wall.