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Virginia Historical Inventory: CATALOG CARD

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RECORD NO.	VHIR/22/0714
REPORTER	Morton, Susan R.
TITLE	Mundy house site : survey report, 1937 Apr. 15 / research made by Susan R. Morton.
	4 leaves.
NOTE	Map location number: PW146
NOTE	Additional report with same map location number: VHIR/22/0707
NOTE	Class: Home
NOTE	Building date: Post 1750
NOTE	Building plan: Square
NOTE	Number of stories: 2
NOTE	Building material: Brick
NOTE	Location: .2 mile from Dunfries on Rt. 1.
NOTE	Primary owners: Willoughby Tebbs, George Merchant, King family, C.F. Brown
NOTE	The house was destroyed by a gale a few years before the report date, but the stone from the cellar was used to build another house on the same site. Willoughby Tebbs was shot by Henry Lee here. During the Civil War, the house was a hospital and campground. Damaged during the war, the house was repaired and used for a school. A hidden wine cellar was discovered during the salvage operation.
NOTE	Includes description of the house, interior and site.
NOTE	Includes abstracts of title.
OTHER FORMAT	Also available on microfilm.
ISSUING BODY	This write-up is a part of the Virginia W.P.A. Historical Inventory Project sponsored by the Virginia Conservation Commission under the direction of its Division of History.
REPRODUCTION	Computer file. Richmond, Va. : Library of Virginia, 1998. 4 image files.
SUBJECT	Tebbs, Willoughby.
SUBJECT	Dwellings -- Virginia -- Prince William County.
SUBJECT	Brick houses -- Virginia -- Prince William County.
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SUBJECT	United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Destruction and pillage.
SUBJECT	Surveys. aat.
SUBJECT	Abstracts of title -- Virginia -- Prince William County. aat.
ADDED ENTRY	Callahan, Charles, informant.
ADDED ENTRY	Wheat, Robert, informant.
ADDED ENTRY	Brawner, Warfield, informant.
ADDED ENTRY	Ewell, Maud, informant.
ADDED ENTRY	Virginia Historical Inventory Project.
ADDED ENTRY	Virginia Conservation Commission. Division of History.
ADDED ENTRY	United States. Works Progress Administration.
LINK FIELD	http://lvaimage.lib.va.us/VHI/html/22/0714.html -- ReportHome Page



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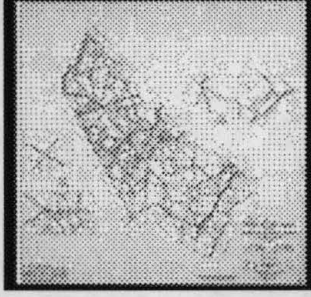
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VIRGINIA HISTORICAL INVENTORY

Mundy house site

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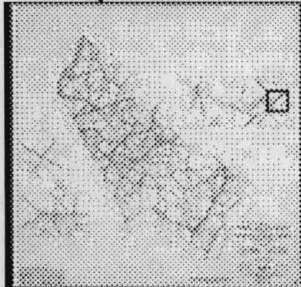
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(Prince William County - Dwellings)

Map Focus Area



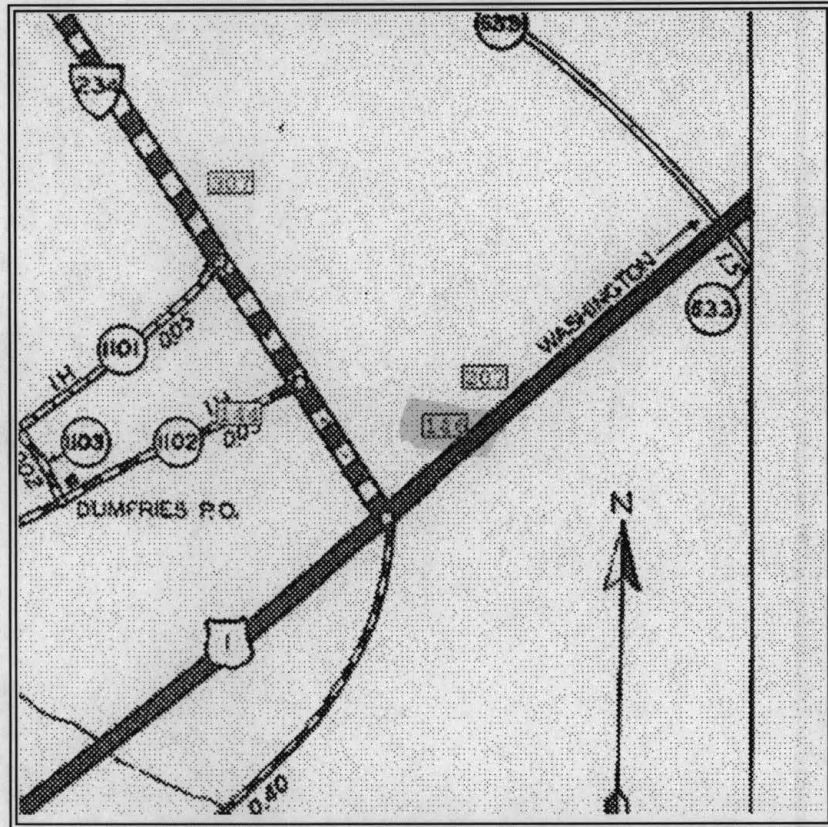
Clicking Map Will: Recenter

146. Mundy house site

<remove red squares>

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	<input type="radio"/> 2
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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION OF VIRGINIA
HISTORICAL INVENTORY

146

COUNTY: Prince William

CLASS : Home

MUNDY HOUSE SITE

This write-up is a part of the Virginia W. P. A. Historical Inventory Project sponsored by the Virginia Conservation Commission under the direction of its Division of History. Credit to both the Commission and W. P. A. is requested for publication, in whole or in part. Unless otherwise stated, this information has not been checked for accuracy by the sponsor.

Research made by
Susan R. Morton,
Haymarket, Virginia.

April 15, 1937.

1. SUBJECT:

Mundy House Site.

2. LOCATION:

One eighth of a mile from Dumfries, Virginia, on Route #1. House on north side of the road.

3. DATE:

Some time in the later half of the eighteenth century, but there is no way of making sure of the date.

4. OWNERS:

It is impossible to find any early records of ownership, although this was the home of Willoughby Tebbs, and I think that it was built by him. It was left to his widow, Betsy Tebbs, and she evidently sold it to Merchant, but I have not been able to find the record of it, and suppose that it is among the missing records of Prince William.

George and Sarah Merchant sold it in 1849 to Phineas Mundy, Deed Book 47, folio 78, and in 1853, Deed Book 51, folio 46, is the record of additional land on Grayson's Hill. Later, this all came into possession of the Kings, and remained in that family for years, but was sold to Mr. C. F. Brown of Quantico, Virginia, in 1935 by the King estate.

5. DESCRIPTION:

The old house was in very bad repair for some years, and finally, in a heavy gale, fell in, but it was still standing a few years ago, and I remember it very well, but cannot recall the details well enough to fill in the architectural sheet. It was square, brick of Flemish bond, with white stone trim. There were six rooms on the first floor, three on the second, and five in the basement. Originally, there had been more rooms on the second floor, but had evidently been altered to make some some exceptionally large rooms, and as it had been used as a hospital and a school, that would seem likely.

There was a large center hall with removable panelling between that and the drawing room, so that for balls and such festive occasions it could be made into one large room. This panelling was very beautiful and was sold to someone in New York, for a thousand dollars. The brick was likewise sold, and was taken to Fredericksburg. There were two double chimneys at each end, and

The stone from the basement has been used to build a most attractive house on the same site by the present owner.

There are none of the old trees left, although until a few years ago there were some very large locusts standing that had been there for many years. There was a terraced garden in front that has been rebuilt by the present owner, Back of the house are the lovely woods of Grayson Hill. At the southwest corner of the house is a large well that was probably built by the original owners, this too, has been cleaned and repaired.

6. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

This is one of the old houses that was the scene of so many stirring scenes in the past, and so many prominent people, who have made our heritage of history, have passed through its doors, that in spite of the fact that there are few physical remains of the old home, its atmosphere is felt. This was the scene of much of Dumfries' gayety and hospitality. The balls held here were noted for their beauty, and the belles from the neighboring plantations and towns came here in coaches and sedan chairs. Miss Maud Fwell of Haymarket, Virginia, remembers hearing her grandmother tell of going there dressed in a rich purple brocade, that had just come in from one of the ships from London, and was hastily made up for the occasion, only to her dismay to find there were no flowers available that would blend well with her royal gown. Someone suggested bunches of small purple grapes that were growing in a nearby garden, and clusters of these in her powdered hair, made a striking headdress.

Washington is said to have taken tea here many times on his frequent visits to Dumfries, and many other notables as well.

It was here that Willoughby Tebbs was shot by Colomel Henry Lee, and during the War Between the States the house was used as a hospital, mostly by a regiment of Texas soldiers. The Union Army was camped back of here all one winter. After the war, the house, badly damaged, was repaired and used as a school.

A few months ago, workmen excavating for plumbing to be installed in the new "Mundy House", (that is built directly over the old cellar) were met with a geyser of wine, their picks having struck a hidden wine cellar. The most of the bottles were broken, but a few were saved, all hand-blown glass with crooked necks, that evidently dated back to Revolutionary days.

7. ART:

8. SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

Informants: Mr. Charles Callahan, Commissioner of Revenues, Alexandria, Virginia, Mrs. Robert Wheat, Dumfries, Virginia, Mr. Warfield Brawner, Dumfries, Virginia, Mr. Walter Keys, Dumfries, Virginia, and Miss Maud Swell, Haymarket, Virginia.

Court Records, Prince William County, Virginia.