



Buckland

Jerry Foster—The Journal Messenger

The town of Buckland (below, right), including several sites such as the Buckland Tavern (above) and other

18th and 19th century buildings, has been nominated for inclusion in the Virginia register of historic places.

Mill Proposed for Landmark Register

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The Virginia Historic Landmarks Division will hold a public hearing to discuss the nomination of the Buckland Historic District to the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places on Dec. 2 in Manassas.

Buckland, a small community which is located near the Prince William/Fauquier county lines at U.S. 29-211, dates from 1794 when John Love established a grist mill on Broad Run.

The town was chartered by the Virginia General Assembly in 1798.

Buckland was the first inland town established in Prince William County, and was an important wagon stop on the main east-west highway from Alexandria to the Blue Ridge Mountains.

The present, two-and-a-half-story grist mill located there, known as Calvert's Mill, was erected in about 1899. It is believed to be the third mill constructed on the site. It was constructed on the site of an earlier woolen mill, which began operating sometime 1835 and 1847. That mill was apparently built on the site of the mill operated by John Love.

"Although there are two other extant mills with some associated buildings remaining in Prince William County, the mill and village at Buckland present an unusually complete suggestion of its original character and appearance," according to a statement included in the application for inclusion in the state register.

The district, according to Prince William County officials, is historically and architecturally significant as representative of the small, mill-oriented communities that characterized much of Virginia during the 18th and 19th centuries.

The nomination of Buckland for inclusion as a historic site in the state register was submitted by Prince William County this fall.

If the town is included in the Virginia Historic Register, it will also be automatically be nominated to the national Historic Register.

Listing in the registers will provide recognition of its historical significance and will insure a protective review of federal projects that will impact the town.

The inclusion will not affect the rights of property owners to alter or

See Buckland on A-2.

Buckland

Continued from A-1
develop their property, provided that no federal funds are involved.

The public hearing will be conducted by state officials to hear comments from the public in order to give residents an interested parties a chance to comment on the nomination.

The first hearing will be held locally and on Dec. 8 the Virginia Landmarks Board will meet in Richmond to consider the nomination.

If the nomination is approved by the state, according to board pro-

cedure, Buckland will automatically be nominated to the national register within 45 days.

There are presently 150 historic districts in the state.

The area proposed to be included in the district consists of 14 buildings along Buckland Mill Road and U.S. 29-211 and also Buckland Church cemetery and the Buckland Methodist Church.

Buckland retains an exceptional degree of architectural and scenic integrity, according to county officials, despite the fact that it is divided by a divided four-lane highway.

