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Virginia Historical Inventory: CATALOG CARD

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RECORD NO.	VHIR/22/0652
REPORTER	Morton, Susan R.
TITLE	Deep Hole (old site) : survey report, 1937 Aug. 5 / research made by Susan R. Morton.
	4 leaves.
NOTE	Map location number: PW157
NOTE	Additional report with same map location number: VHIR/22/0585
NOTE	Class: Home
NOTE	Building date: Unknown
NOTE	Building material: Brick
NOTE	Antiques described: Indian tools, tomahawks, potsherds
NOTE	Location: 1.5 miles south of Woodbridge off Rt. 637.
NOTE	Primary owners: Anne Scarlett, John Tayloe family, Isaac Newton, Lindsey Dawson
NOTE	The spot is not far from where John Smith made his Potomac explorations and appears to have been an Indian camp, due to the large amount of relics found here. Old bricks mark the house site and there are remains of an overseer's house and outbuildings. Closer to the Potomac is the Scarlett family graveyard.
NOTE	Includes information from tombstone inscriptions.
NOTE	Includes excerpt from 1696 Anne Scarlett deed.
NOTE	Includes description of the house 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	Deep Hole (Prince William County, Va. : Dwelling)
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SUBJECT	Deeds -- Virginia -- Prince William County. aat.
SUBJECT	Genealogies -- Virginia -- Prince William County. aat.
SUBJECT	Epitaphs. aat.
ADDED ENTRY	Dawson, Lindsey, Mrs., informant.
ADDED ENTRY	Selecman, George D., 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/22/0652.html -- ReportHome Page



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Deep Hole (old site)

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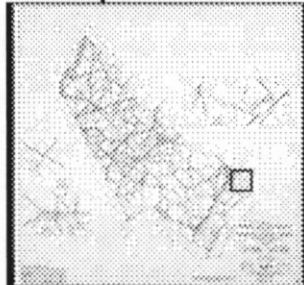
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(Prince William County - Dwellings)

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Clicking Map Will: Recenter

157. Deep Hole (old site)

<remove red squares>

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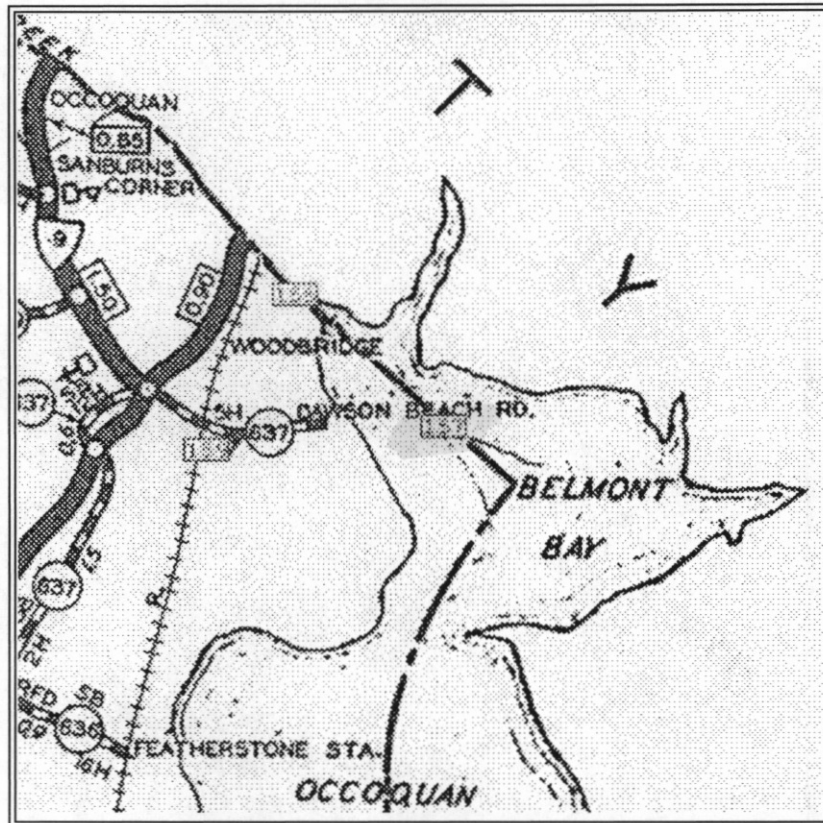
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640x480 800x600



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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION OF VIRGINIA
HISTORICAL INVENTORY

157

COUNTY: Prince William

CLASS : Home

"DEEP HOLT" (OLD 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.

August 5, 1937.

1. SUBJECT:

"Deep Hole" (Old Site)

2. LOCATION:

One and five tenths miles south of Woodbridge, Virginia, Take Route #637 five tenths mile from Woodbridge Post Office, then, to the end of Route #637 known as the Dawson Beach Road, thence on private road a short distance to the first group of outbuildings.

3. DATE:

Exact date unknown.

4. OWNERS:

The first mention is as follows: "Whereas Anne Scarlet, formerly of the County of Stafford was seized in fee simple of and in a tract of land containing seven hundred (and forty) acres, now in the Parish of Dettingen, she, the said Anne Scarlet, by her deed bearing date the 12th day of October, 1696, did give and grant the said trust to her son, Josua Green, or if he left no heirs, to his two sisters, Anne and Lettice Green-----"

In 1772 John Hancock petitioned the General Assembly to dock the entail.

John Tayloe leased from Francis Aubrey, four thousand acres in Truro Parish, Prince William County, for twenty thousand pounds legal tobacco; the land being granted to aubrey in 1727. How Tayloe came into possession of the Deed Hole Tract I can find no record, but the following: "This indenture made the 25th day of March, 1854, Benjam O. Tayloe, of the city of Washington, D. C. and William Tayloe of Richmond County, Virginia, and Isaac Newton of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a tract of land called "Deep Hole Estate" left by Colonel John Tayloe, 1824, also Mount Pleasant and the Marsh Fishery on the old Gloucester Stage Road--"

M. M. Musser M. D. from Isaac Newton, 1869. Dr. Musser t Nero Metzger, in the same year, and in 1909 it was bought by Mr. Lindsey Dawson, who has made it his home ever sin

5. DESCRIPTION:

There is nothing of the past to be seen on the place today save the sites where the Old Home once stood, and another house, evidently the overseer's house, and what is left of the graveyard.

The original house, which was of brick, stood some six hundred feet from the present house, from what people can remember of hearing an older generation tell, the house was large and pretentious. A slight depression where the cellar was, and a few mossy bricks that are occasionally dug up, are the only remains. There are some fine trees on the place and some that are very old, a garden strays that may be scions of the first Mistress's garden.

Only a short distance from the present house, towards Potomac, is the site of another old house that must have been intended for the Overseer of the plantation. This was torn down some years ago, but I have a good description of it. The timbers were all hand hewn, and the masonry shop-made. It contained six rooms, and had three dormer brick chimneys at either end, high English mantels, a closed stairway.

In the foundation of the piggery and barn, can be seen the remains of the gravestones of many buried in the graveyard, that was located on an elevation not far from the river; these were taken up during the Metzger ownership.

6. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

This was not far from where Captain John Smith landed his Potomac explorations, and that this was a much frequented spot by the Indians is evident by the relics are constantly being found with each year's plowing. It was also less than two miles from the ferry at "Woodbush" Colonel Mason's home, and the Court House and warehouse in Gloucester just across the Ocoquan, so that it is easy to picture the life of those days in which "Deep River" must have played an important part.

Mrs. Dawson has made a collection of Indian relics found on the place and environs, and now has over four hundred arrow heads, some of them very fine, tomahawks, many potsherds, some of them showing very clear designs, pieces of various tools and implements, a collection so notable that it will be covered in a separate paper.

Some distance, probably an eighth of a mile from the place close by the Potomac, is the grave of Martin Scarlet, some distance away the stone that belongs on the grave of his son, the latter stone was removed from the grave some time ago, but not damaged. The inscriptions follow:

M. S. 1695;

JOHN SCARLET, Gentleman,
son of Martin Scarlet

Here lies Martin Scarlet, Gentleman.

Martin Scarlet was a Justice in Stafford in 1680.

There are many stories told of the ill fate that befall ed the desecrator of the old graveyard, that soon after the stones were removed, some of which were dumped in the river, (I talked with a woman who said that not so many years ago they could be seen when the water was low) his favorite horse, and also a very valuable one, stepped into a sunken grave and broke his leg, having to be killed, and the man himself was found dead on the Railroad tracks, not certain whether it was suicide or foul play.

7. ART:

8. SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

Informants: Mrs. Lindsey Dawson, Woodbridge, Virginia,
Mr. George D. Selecman, Occoquan, Virginia.

Court House Records, Manassas, Virginia,

Deed Book 34, Page 349 Deed Book 23, Folio 143

Heming, Volume 8, Pages 635 and 637.