

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION OF VIRGINIA
HISTORICAL INVENTORY

104

COUNTY: Prince William

CLASS: Home

--- "MORE GREEN" ---

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 Rogers Morton,
Haymarket, Virginia.

February 27, 1937

23. Does occupant seem to appreciate old architectural features? No

Your Name Susan Rogers Morton.

1. SUBJECT:

"More Green".

2. LOCATION:

3 miles north of Brentsville, Virginia, on Route #214.
North side of road.

3. DATE:

Unknown.

4. OWNERS:

Clemont Chevaelle and Louis Renoe, grant in 1711.
William and Mary Bronough 1793.
Howison Hooe.
James Hooe.
Jane Hooe, who married Redmond Foster.
Mrs. J. B. Fletcher, present owner.

5. DESCRIPTION:

The old road passed in front of the house. This was the original road from Dumfries to Bristow, called the "Carolina Road", but this road has been gone for many years, and all that can be seen of it are a few ridges, and in what is now a cultivated field are the abutments of a former bridge. As the house was built to face the old road, the very lovely fan-shaped transom over the front door, now looks across the fields, and the kitchen entrance faces the present approach. While the house is badly in need of repairs, it is still beautiful. The lovely brick cornices are in good condition. There are a few fine old trees left, but most of them succumbed to the drought several years ago. No outbuildings are left except the smokehouse, as a few years ago the numerous cabins on the place were all torn away.

The winding stairway is the most striking feature of the interior, and the mantel in the drawing room is beautifully carved, but like all the wood work it has been covered with paint in the most glaring colors.

The old kitchen is distinguished by huge cupboards that might have held food for an army. There are three steps which lead from the kitchen to the dining room, and it may have been added after the main part of the house was built.

The house is located so far from the highway that it does not seem to be well known. It is a splendid piece of architectural success, and well worth a visit.

6. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

This land was patented in 1711 by Clemont Chevaelle and Louis Renoe. In 1793 it came into the hands of Howison Hooe, who belonged to the numerous Hooe family that had

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Your Name Susan Rogers Norton.

settled at Occoquan, and operated the Ferry there for a number of years.

The place was willed to James Hooe by his father, Howison Hooe, in 1841, and is described as a tract of land at the forks of Broad Run and Kettle Run, being a part of the old Bristow tract. It was bequeathed to Jane Hooe by her brother James Hooe, and she left it to her husband, Redmond Foster. Both the Hooes and the Fosters were large slave owners. With Brentsville, the county seat, only three miles away, the place must have been the scene of much festivity and hospitality, although the place now seems but an echo of the past.

7. ART:

8. SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

Informants: Mrs. Seymore, Brentsville, Virginia,
Mrs. Proffett, Manassas, Virginia,
Mrs. Fletcher, Manassas, Virginia.

Prince William County Court Records.

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Your Name Susan Rogers Horton.

Name of Building

"MORE GREEN".

EXTERIOR

1. Building Plan "L" Cellar ()
2. No. of stories: (3) Attic classed as 1/2 story.
3. Material: Brick () Frame () Stone () Log ()
4. If brick, state what bond: Flemish () English () Common () Other ()
5. Kind of roof: Hip () Gabled () Gambrel () Lean-to () Deck ()
6. If church, describe or draw sketch of roof on reverse side.
7. Roof Material: Slate () Shingle () Metal () Tile ()
8. Chimneys: Number (3) Brick () Stone () Location Each end, and between "L" and main part.
9. Weatherboarding: None Beaded () Plain ()
10. Cornices: Plain or Elaborate Elaborate Material Brick
11. Windows: Number (27) Size and number of panes Modern
12. Shutters: Describe: None
13. Dormers: Number, and Shape of roof None
14. Porch: Portico in front. Porch on side of "L".
15. Type of Entrance: Large double door, with fan-shaped transom.
16. Columns: Doric () Ionic () Corinthian () Square ()

INTERIOR

17. No. of Rooms: (9) Large () Small () Approximate ceiling height 14 ft
18. Stairway: Open String () Closed String () Describe: Lovely winding 10 ft
stairway, with some splendid carving.
19. Cellars: Describe Three rooms. Large fireplace in one room.
20. Doors: Style and type of wood Six panels, painted.
21. Walls: Panelled, papered or painted Plastered and painted.
22. Interior Cornices Plain wood.
23. Hardware: Locks and hinges Two old brass locks, others modern.
24. Floors: Wide, uneven boards.
25. Mantels: Two beautifully carved. Others plain
26. Misc:
27. Present condition: and state if spoiled architecturally by remodelling:
Needs repairs. Unspoiled except for atrocious paint on wood work
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