



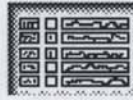
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### Virginia Historical Inventory: CATALOG CARD

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<b>REPORTER</b>	Morton, Susan R.
<b>TITLE</b>	Park Gate : survey report, 1937 July 6 / research made by Susan Rogers Morton. 3 leaves.
<b>NOTE</b>	Map location given in report as PW109 but no dot with that number appears on map.
<b>NOTE</b>	Class: Home and cemetery
<b>NOTE</b>	Building date: ca. 1760
<b>NOTE</b>	Location: 2.5 miles east of Nokesville on Rt. 652.
<b>NOTE</b>	Primary owners: William Helm, Thomas Lee, John Washington, Henry Wagner, J.W. Lisky
<b>NOTE</b>	George Washington was a frequent visitor.
<b>NOTE</b>	Includes description of the house, interior and site. There is a graveyard nearby, but no epitaphs and the slave quarters are still standing.
<b>NOTE</b>	Includes abstracts of title.
<b>OTHER FORMAT</b>	Also available on microfilm.
<b>ISSUING BODY</b>	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.
<b>REPRODUCTION</b>	Computer file. Richmond, Va. : Library of Virginia, 1998. 3 image files.
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Park Gate (Prince William County, Va. : Dwelling)
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<b>SUBJECT</b>	Genealogies -- Virginia -- Prince William County. aat.
<b>ADDED ENTRY</b>	Ewell, Maud, informant.
<b>ADDED ENTRY</b>	Hibbs, E. H., informant.
<b>ADDED ENTRY</b>	Reading, Charles, informant.
<b>ADDED ENTRY</b>	Virginia Historical Inventory Project.

<b>ADDED ENTRY</b>	Virginia Conservation Commission. Division of History.
<b>ADDED ENTRY</b>	United States. Works Progress Administration.
<b>LINK FIELD</b>	<a href="http://lvaimage.lib.va.us/VHI/html/22/0720.html">http://lvaimage.lib.va.us/VHI/html/22/0720.html</a> -- ReportHome Page



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**Park Gate**

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION OF VIRGINIA  
HISTORICAL INVENTORY

109

COUNTY: Prince William

CLASS : Home and Cemetery

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"PARK GATE"

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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.

July 6th, 1937.



1. SUBJECT:

"Park Gate".

2. LOCATION:

To the north of Route #652, take Route #28 either from the east or west to Bristow, thence 5 miles on Route #233 to Nokesville, Virginia, thence east 2.5 miles on Route #652.

3. DATE:

About 1760.

4. OWNERSHIP

The first reference to this land is a deed of lease and released from Robert Carter and James Thomas, of 1450 acres. This was in 1728, later a part of it became the property of Wm. Helm, who in turn sold it to John Chesley, a tract of 600 acres. Whether the house was built by a Lee or a Washington is not known. However it was the home of Thomas Lee, the orator and Statesman, and was the scene of much hospitality to many of the noted men of the day. Just what time the Washington family lived there is not known, but the "Inventory of Colonel John M. Washington of Park Gate" recorded in Will Book Q at the Clerk's Office in Manassas, proves his occupancy at the beginning of the 19th century. In 1803 Thomas Lee Sr., by the last will and testament of Mrs. Hannah Lea is requested to invest "a sum of money for Ky daughter" and sixteen hundred and twenty-seven pounds specie, was put in the Park Gate tract with a yearly rental of 97 pounds, 14 shillings. In 1854 it was sold to Mrs. Fannie V. Washington, or rather she sold her interest in Park Gate to Henry Wagner. After the Wagners' occupancy it changed hands several times before it was sold twenty years ago to Mr. J. W. Lisky, who still owns and occupies it.

5. DESCRIPTION:

This is a well preserved old house, and while the interior has been changed, the general appearance is much the same as it must have been a century ago. There are wide chimney at each end and a steep roof that extends over the porch, that is across the entire length or front of the house. There is also a porch at the rear. There are three dormers on each side of the house.

The old slave quarters are standing. There is a huge fireplace, a porch in front, and the roof, covered with hand-me shingles, is still in use. There are no other out-building standing that were a part of the original plantation, but



a few years ago there were several cabins and an old barn close by.

About two hundred feet from the house, to the northwest, is the old graveyard, much overgrown and not a stone that has any inscription. There are numerous graves and undoubtedly those of some of the people whose names were illustrious in other days.

The garden and most of the old trees are of the past, although the place has a well-kept look.

The interior has some lovely wood-work, wainscoating in the hall and drawing room being notably fine. There are still the beautiful six panel doors, and some fine hand-work on the window casings. The rooms have changed in sizes and arrangement, so that it was hard to describe as it once was.

6. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

It is said that George Washington was a guest here often and this is probably true as in his journal he speaks of taking tea at "Park Gate".

One of Thomas Lee's sisters married Daniel Carrol Brent, brother of Robert Brent, first mayor of Washington, D. C.

7. ART:

8. SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

Informants: Miss Maud Ewell, Haymarket, Virginia.

Mrs. E. H. Hibbs, Grant Ave. Manassas, Virginia.

Mr. Charles Reading, Nokesville, Virginia.

Court Records, Clerk's Office, Manassas, Virginia,  
Deed Book 2, Folio 240.