

VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no. 76-290 Negative no(s). 4902

SURVEY FORM

Historic name Simpson House Site & Cemetery Common name

County/Town/City Prince William County

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Street address or route number Vic. 11300 Bacon Race Road Hoadly, Va.
USGS Quad Occoquan

Date or period late 18th, early to mid-19th century.

Original owner William Simpson?

Original use Residence

Present owner Occoquan Land Corp.

Present owner address c/o J.P. O'Boyle

P.O. Box 3539, Greenville Drive,

Present use Cemetery only. Wilmington, DE Foundation and wall const'n N/A

Acreage 67.8 acres

Stories N/A

Source of date Local histories

Architect/builder/craftsmen

Source of name

Roof type N/A

State condition of structure and environs Cemetery is in good condition; surrounding area is overgrown; new development going on nearby.

State potential threats to structure New residential subdivision may destroy site.

19807

Note any archaeological interest House site and 14 farm buildings of 18-19th century plantation somewhere near the cemetery.

Should be investigated for possible register potential? yes ___

Architectural description (Note significant features of plan, structural system and interior and exterior decoration, taking care to point out aspects not visible or clear from photographs. Explain nature and period of all alterations and additions. List any outbuildings and their approximate ages, cemeteries, etc.)

In 1941, the Simpson Place, in Prince William, the Story of Its People and Its Places, was decribed as a 1 1/2-story house, then unoccupied, with 14 farm buildings nearby and traces of a garden. The only presently remaining feature is a cemetery containing about 14 graves of Simpsons and others. There are about 13 inscribed stones of people who lived from the early part of the 19th century to the first quarter of the 20th century, and several older tombstones with illegible inscriptions in this small cemetery. A board fence encloses it on two sides. This cemetery is not shown on the tax assessment maps.

The house site could not be found, nor traces of any of the outbuildings. Note that the old Washington-Rochambeau Route, otherwise known as Wolf Run Shoals Road, and also as Telephone Road, passes near this cemetery and house site. This was a public road and ford before Ryan's dam was constructed further downstream in the 1930's.

In 1901, this property is identified on a County map as that of Robert Simpson. Across the Occoquan on Wolf Run Shoals Road was a grist mill built c1770 by George Simpson. The Simpsons in Prince William descended from John Simpson, a Scot who immigrated in about 1676. John Simpson had a plantation on Hunting Creek, but he lived in Aquia.

Interior inspected?

Historical significance (Chain of title; individuals, families, events, etc., associated with the property.)

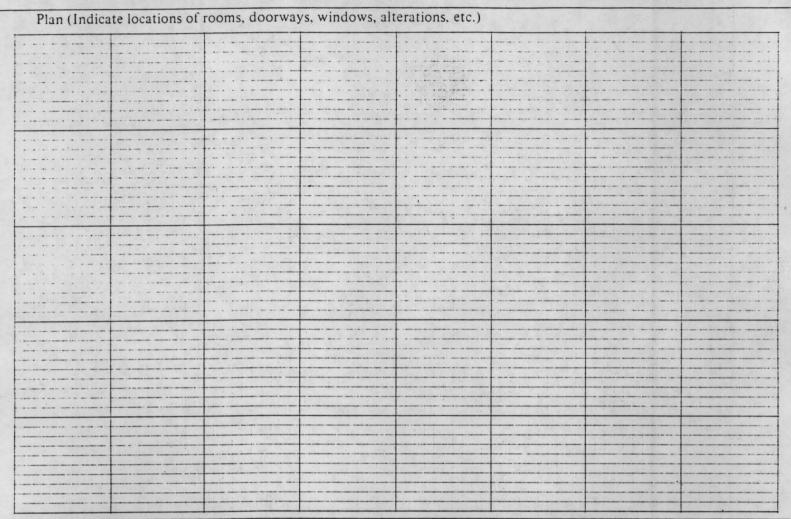
The Simpson House site and cemetery are located on a private road near the Occoquan Reservoir, about a mile west of (S.R. 610) Bacon Race Road, and about 4 miles from the intersection of Bacon Race Road and Davis Ford Road (S.R. 663). Bacon Race Road, which terminates as a state road about where the private road to the Simpson Place forks off to the northwest. Past this point the Bacon Race Road is a private road to Ryans Dam which was built in the 1930's. Wolf Run Shoals Road, also known as Telephone Road, passes very close to the Simpson Cemetery on the east. It is an old road, built in 1781 by County Lieutenant of Prince William Henry Lee, at the request of General George Washington that a road be opended from Dumfries to Alexandria via Wolf Run Shoals for the transporting of French and American cavalry, baggage wagons, and beef cattle from Georgetown to Dumfries in preparation for the Yorktown campaign. This road, known as the Washington-Rochambeau route, was later used by both Union and Confederate forces during the Civil War. Since the construction of the dam which flooded the Occoquan, the ford has been inundated, and it is no longer possible to trace a continuous road from Prince William to Wolf Run Shoals Road in Fairfax County across the Occoquan.

Sources and bibliography

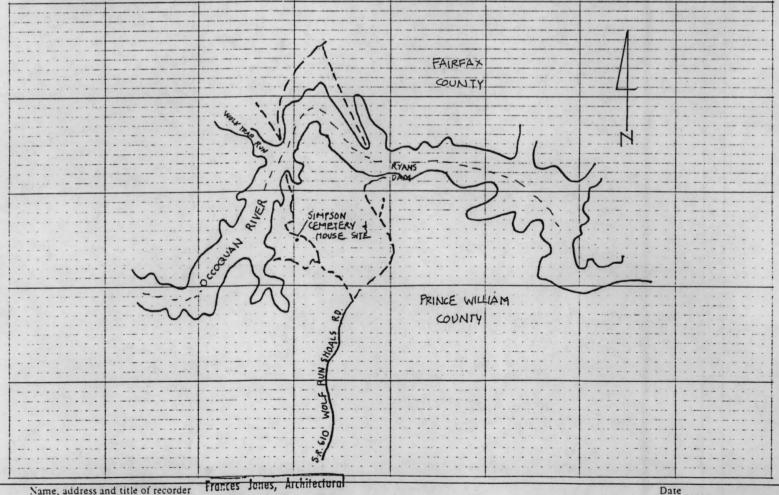
Published sources (Books, articles, etc., with bibliographic data.)
Harrison, Fairfax, Landmarks of Old Prince William (c1924), p. 449.

W.P.A., Writer's Project, Prince William, the Story of Its People and Its Places (c1941), p. 107 Primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials; give location.)

Names and addresses of persons interviewed Mrs. Helen Simpson Meeks, 1905 Radford Dr., Woodbridge, VA; Mr. Paul Arrington, 9319 Main St., Manassas, VA; E. R. Conner, III, Manassas Museum.



Site plan (Locate and identify outbuildings, dependencies and significant topographical features.)



Name, address and title of recorder

Historian - Surveyor, NYPDC

JUN

1980.

