



**VIRGINIA**  
**HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION**  
**SURVEY FORM**

File no. 76-303
Negative no(s).no photo

Historic name Newport Town Site	Common name
County/Town/City Prince William County	
Street address or route number vic. VEPCO Power Plant at Possum Point on S.R. 633.	
USGS Quad Quantico	Date or period
Original owner Cuthbert Bullitt	Architect/builder/craftsmen
Original use plantation	
Present owner VEPCO	Source of name
Present owner address VEPCO Woodbridge Dist. Office, 1901 Reddy Drive, Woodbridge, Va.	Source of date
Present use Power Plant	Stories N/A
Acreage c30 acres	Foundation and wall const'n N/A
	Roof type N/A

State condition of structure and environs Site demolished.

State potential threats to structure  
 Note any archaeological interest

Should be investigated for possible register potential? yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_

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.)

There is no access to the site which is now the location of Possum Point Power Station.

Interior inspected? N/A

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

The history of Newport, a town that was incorporated but was never realized, is linked with the history of Dumfries. Dumfries, located about 3 miles up Quantico Creek from the Potomac, began in the mid 18th century as a tobacco port. The decline of the port of Dumfries occurred when, owing to erosion caused by poor agricultural practices further upstream, the creek began to silt up and eventually became unnavigable. By the 1780s, ships could no longer reach the wharves. Some of Dumfries' merchants and wealthier citizens sought to remedy the situation by building a canal alongside Quantico Creek from Dumfries to a place called Granary Landing. The attempt failed, however, when flooding wrecked the canal. In 1787, the town of Newport was established on land donated by Cuthbert Bullitt. The site was on a peninsula known as Possum Point. The second incorporated town in Prince William County, Newport consisted of 30 acres of land lying at the mouth of Quantico Creek and on the Potomac River. The town was laid out on a grid in about 66 lots. The trustees, all prominent men, were Thomas Blackburn, Alexander Henderson, William Grayson, Thomas Montgomery, William Tebbs, Burr Harrison, Jesse Ewell, John McMillan, and Ludwell Lee. The following year, the town of Carrborough was laid out on 50 acres on the south side of the mouth of Quantico Creek. Newport and Carrborough were both paper towns, neither having ever realized its early promise of attracting the river trade.

The site of Newport is the present location of VEPCO's Possum Point power plant.

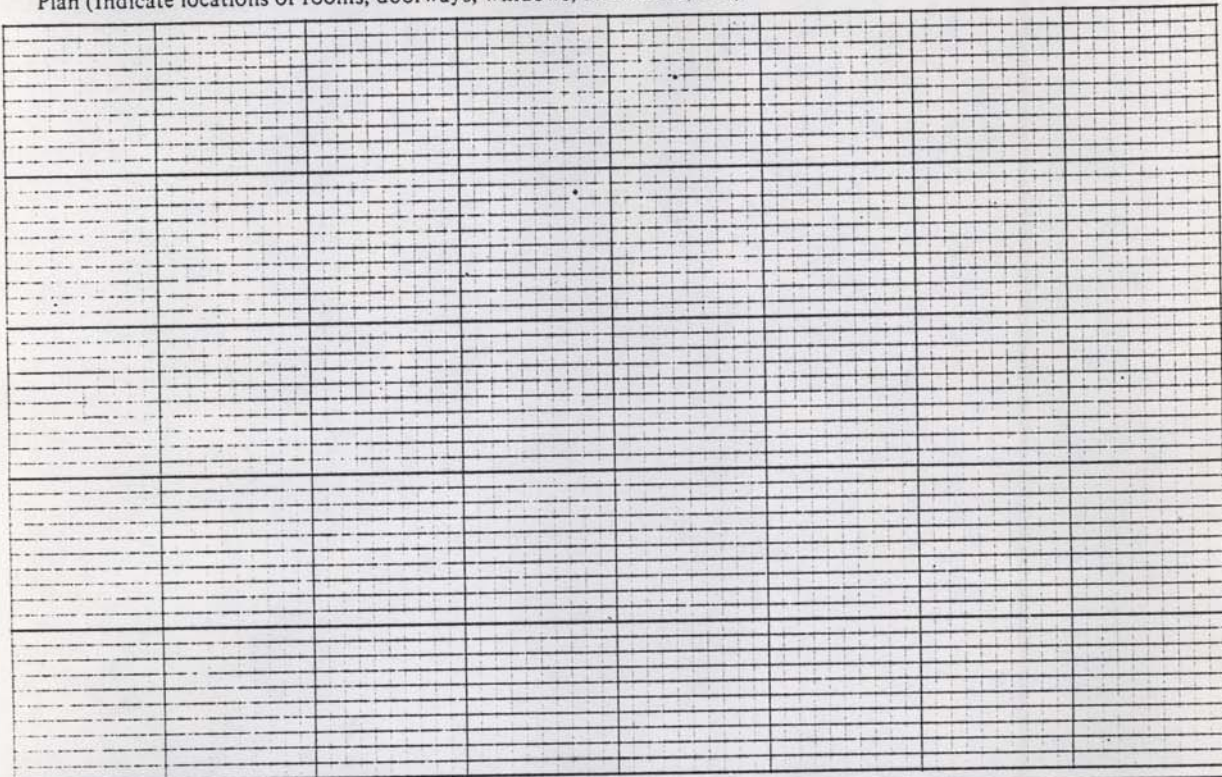
Sources and bibliography

Published sources (Books, articles, etc., with bibliographic data.)

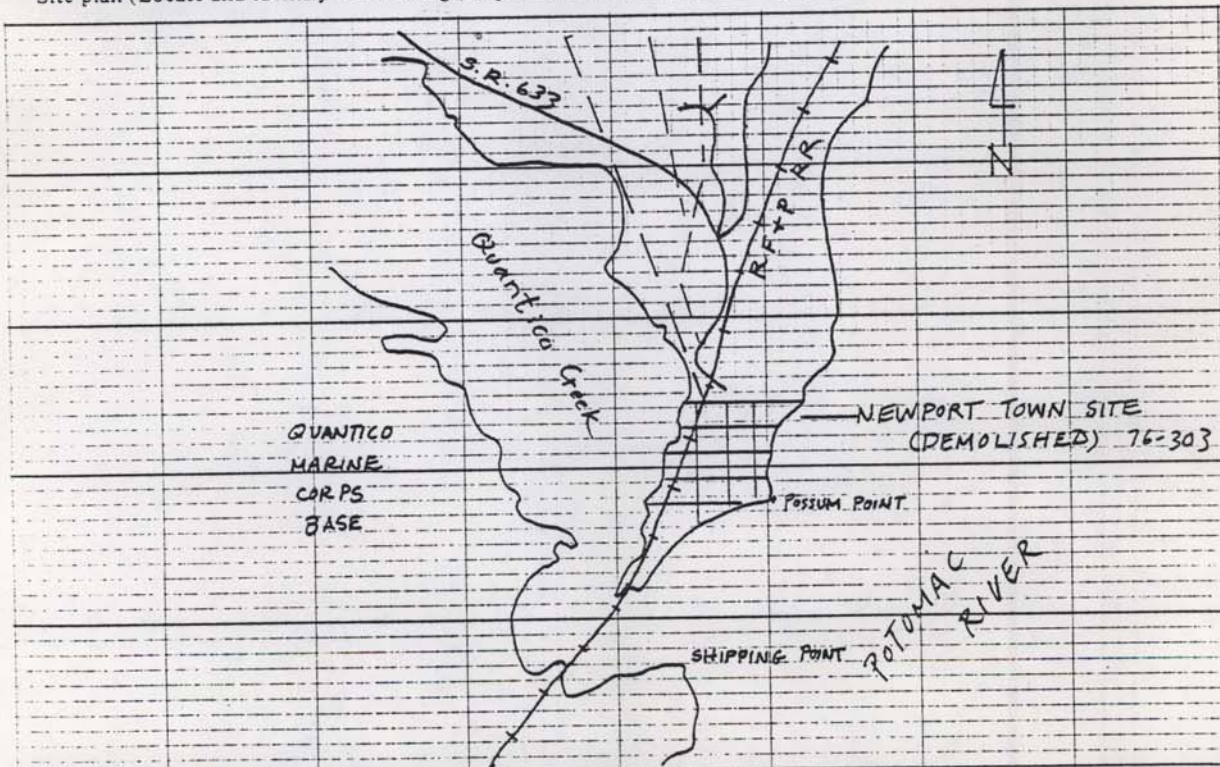
Fairfax Harrison, Landmarks of Old Prince William (c1924, 1964), pp. 389,664;  
W.P.A., Writer's Project, Prince William, The Story of Its People and Its Places (c1941,1961),  
pp. 87-88,  
R. J. Ratcliffe, This Was Prince William (c1976), pp. 43-45.

Names and addresses of persons interviewed

Plan (Indicate locations of rooms, doorways, windows, alterations, etc.)

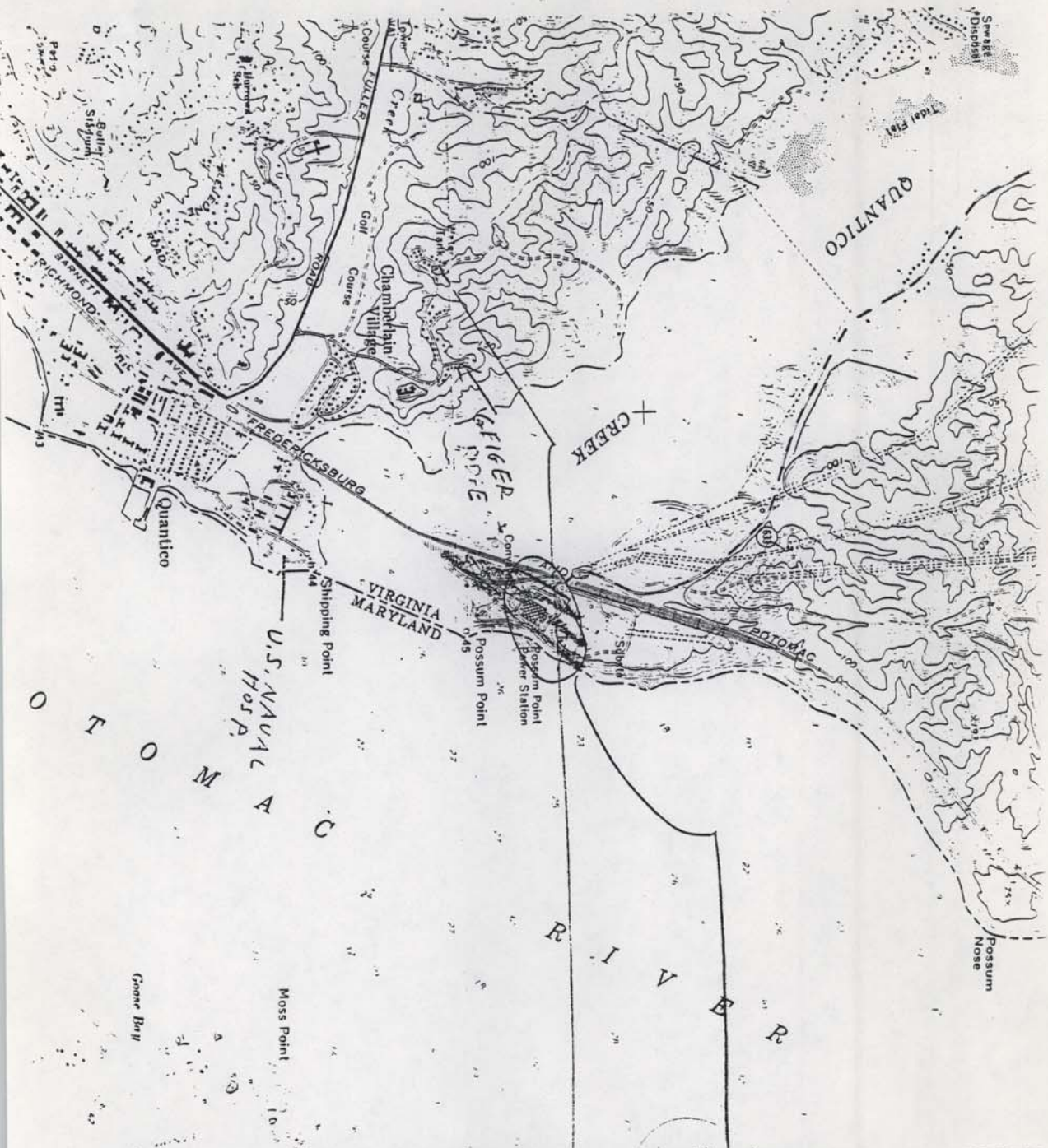


Site plan (Locate and identify outbuildings, dependencies and significant topographical features.)



Name, address and title of recorder Frances Jones, Architectural  
Historian - Surveyor, NVPDC

Date APR 1981



Newport Town  
SITE [DEMOLISHED]

32°30' 76-303

PC

QUANTICO R.

250,000 FT

4766

4767

4768

4769