

**Archaeological Survey and Excavation at *The Hollow*
Markham, Virginia**

Prepared by

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with

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Introduction

From August of 2000 until August of 2001, the Center for Historic Preservation at Mary Washington College conducted a phase I archaeological survey and purposive test units on the 322 acre tract of land known as *The Hollow* in Markham, Virginia (Northwest Fauquier Co.). This tract of land, nestled within Wildcat Hollow, is the site of the boyhood home of John Marshall. Historical roads surround the site on three sides: Route 688- Leeds Manor Road to the west; the road to Beulah Baptist Church to the east; and Marshall School Lane to the south. To the north sits Naked Mountain and Goose Creek meanders through the property. Archaeological examination, in tandem with architectural evaluation, was called upon to provide a construction and occupation date for a standing timber-frame structure which oral history identifies as the (1765-1773) boyhood home of John Marshall. This structure has provided interpretative difficulty for all involved. While architectural historians believe that the possibility exists that this house was constructed in the third quarter of the 18th-century, the archaeology provided very few artifacts which pre-date 1805. No intact strata dating to the Marshall period were discovered. If the extant structure was constructed during the mid-1760's the dearth of eighteenth century artifacts and strata most likely resulted from the brevity of the Marshall's occupation of the Hollow. Plowing and other aspects of the nineteenth and twentieth century occupations of the Hollow may have destroyed early structural features and created an archaeological record dominated by artifacts produced during the past 200 years.

Background Research

Background research, conducted by Cheryl Shepard's indicates that on Oct 12, 1765, Mary and Thomas Marshall leased a 330-acre tract of land from the Lee family "where on the said Thomas Marshall now lives" (Shepard 2000: 6-1). With a supporting date of 1763-1764 from the dendrochronology (Heikkenen 1996) the small timber frame house appeared to be that of Thomas Marshall; this date would place the Marshall's as the first peoples to settle in the eastern foothills of the Blue Ridge, and would have allowed them to avoid the strenuous demands that the Lee's placed on later Lessees. These requirements included the planting of 100 apple trees and the construction of "a dwelling house sixteen feet square at least and a Tobacco House Twenty feet wide and work no more than after the proportion of three tithable hands and an overseer for every one hundred acres ... (as sited in Shepard 2000: 6-1). No outbuildings exist from Marshall's time period, but a WPA inventory (August 5, 1937) states that Thomas Marshall's "place was called 'The Hollow,' and here was built a log cabin for the family and one for the negrose [sic], also a stone meat house and a stable..." (Shepard 2000: 6-1). After the time of the Marshall's departure, circa 1773, the documentation for their house is poor. The land changes hands twelve times and the Hollow tract is split and sold off. In 1851, Edward C. Marshall purchased the various tracts once again reuniting the entire Hollow tract under the Marshall family name (Shepard 2000: 6-2). In 1883, a two-story frame house was added to southern side of the small timber frame house and ongoing research by Shepherd indicates that the house was used as a tenant farm until

rather recently. The land was purchased from the Green/ Lake family in 1981 by The Friends of The Hollow, Inc. and is currently owned by the preservation-minded Dr. David Collins, and is purposed to become a regional learning facility for students of all ages.

Goals and Research Design

The purpose of the archaeology performed at The Hollow was two-fold. Our first mission was to aid the architectural historians by testing hypothesis through subsurface excavation. This involved placing units at various locations around the foundation and in the basement of the building to examine construction techniques, to look for a builder's trench, and to examine any landscape/yard features encountered. The second purpose was to gain an understanding of the yard's appearance and use through time. This was accomplished by performing a Shovel Test Pit (STP) survey of the area immediately surrounding the house and by placing units across the yard based on the result of the survey. A wire fence (100' x 150'), surrounding the standing house, provided the boundaries of the yard survey and excavations.

The grid was oriented to the house (with the 0-foot east/west, 0-foot north/south point at the northeast corner of the house) and STP' s were placed every twenty feet at an angle of 130-degrees west of north. The area tested is a relatively flat finger ridge running east/west just above the valley floor to the south. A terraced slope descends to a meandering creek to the northeast and Naked Mountain rises to the north. Center for Historic Preservation (CHP) personnel excavated 32 STP's along eight transects. Four 5x5-foot units were located across the yard based on concentrations of late-18th-century artifacts discovered during the STP survey.

Excavation within the half basement of the house undertaken in August continued the effort to find intact 18th-century strata. Three units were purposefully placed to: 1) minimize impact on the foundations stability; 2) investigate an inner retaining wall running north/south across the entire width of the house and located approximately four to six feet from the existing eastern wall; and 3) to investigate a strange opening in this interior wall which was hypothesized by the architectural historians to have been intended for a bulkhead entrance (P.C. Shepard 2001).

The archaeological investigations conducted at *The Hollow* will be discussed in three phases, though the phases occurred simultaneously at various points. The phases discuss: 1) the units placed around the house at the suggestion of the architectural historians; 2) the shovel test pit survey; and 3) the units located throughout the yard and basement. Each phase addressed the different question. The units placed around the house were used as a method of testing the architectural historians' hypotheses. The STP's and the units in the yard and basement attempted to locate the remains of the 9-year Marshall occupation within a continuum of historic occupation that spans over 180 years. Therefore methods of analysis used for units 1-4 and unit 9 (house units) differ from the methods used to examine and units 5-12 (yard and basement units).

Field and Lab Methods

Field investigation of The Hollow took place from August 2000 through August 2001. Archaeological work was carried out when specific questions had been defined by architectural historians, and during the spring semester as an educational tool for Mary Washington College Students enrolled in an introductory archaeology class. The use of students limited the scope of the work to strictly weekends for several months and the pace was slowed due to the necessary training and instructional opportunities.

Field Methods

Field investigations included a systematic shovel test pit survey, the excavation of test units placed around the building foundation, units placed in high probability zones (areas with concentrations of Marshall period artifacts) determined by the shovel test pit survey, and in the half-basement in attempts to find in tact 18th century strata. All soils were screened through 1/4 inch hardware screen and artifacts found revealed a dominant nineteenth and twentieth century occupation and a detectible late 18th century component. Tools used included shovels, and trowels. Artifacts, when discovered, were placed in bags labeled with provenience information and returned to the lab for analysis and processing. Excavation, unless noted, was continued through all cultural modified soils into a sterile or subsoil (soil which was unaltered by humans and thus devoid of artifacts).

Laboratory Methods

Artifacts recovered were returned to the Mary Washington College laboratory for processing that included cleaning, labeling, and cataloging. The artifacts have been analyzed according to age, material, and function by reference to standard texts, and in comparison to finds from other sites. As discussed above these categories changed based on the questions being asked of the units. A full catalogue of the artifacts appears in the rear of the report. The artifacts are stored in bags labeled with the appropriate provenience information.

Shovel Test Pits

In October of 2000 a grid was established using the eastern side of the frame structure as reference. The 0'/0' point was placed at the northeast corner of the structure. Eighth transects, or parallel lines, of STP's, measuring approximately 1-foot in diameter, at 20-foot intervals were excavated. This totaled to thirty-two STP's and the site map provides a record of the test pits locations.

Excavation Units

Excavation units were begun as early as August of 2000 and continued through August 2001. Using the same grid as the STP's, 12 units of varying size were excavated.

A transit was used to set in all the units within the yard. The units along the foundation were placed at the request of the architectural historians and thus were set in with tape measures.

Unit 1 measured three-foot (east/west) by 5-foot (north/south) and was placed within the center of the eastern foundation. This unit was excavated to test the architectural historians' hypothesis that a second chimney had existed along the eastern side of the house. A more modern construction technology, circular sawn timbers, created a noticeable gap in the hand hewn timber frame and formed an architectural ghost along the eastern wall. The ghosting and the dominating concept of Georgian symmetry suggested the former presence of a chimney. Further architectural evidence of an east-end chimney remains above in the garret where a circular-sawn window jamb is south of the a rabbet joint in a hewn stud, possibly the location of the original opening. Besides searching for the western chimney's symmetrical partner an effort to locate a possible builders trench was begun. This was an effort continued in every unit opened abutting the foundation.

Unit 2 was a 3-foot (east/west) by 4-foot (north/south) unit that straddles the northeast corner of the house. This unit was placed here to aid the architectural historians' in determining the function of a framing anomaly believed to represent a doorway. No evidence for a matching opening exists on the west side of the house. A 2-foot (north/south) by 3-foot (east/west) addition (unit 3) was added on to the southern bulk of Unit 2 in order to investigate a possible feature that extended into the balk.

Unit 4 was a 4-foot (north/south) by 3-foot (east/west) unit abutting the northern chimney wall and the northwestern portion of the foundation. The unit was excavated to examine the techniques involved in the chimney's construction and to provide a date for the chimney's construction. The architectural historians believe the chimney was built or reconstructed in the mid-nineteenth century.

Units 5, 6, and 7 were 5 by 5-foot units placed in the yard. Each unit investigated a concentration of possible eighteenth century artifacts unearthed during the STP survey. Unit 8 was a 5 by 5-foot unit placed just west of the stone lined depression in the northeast corner of the lot to explore the depression's function. Students under the supervision of Dr. Doug Sanford and Center staff excavated these units.

The northeast corner of unit 9 was located 4-feet west of the northeast corner of the building along the northern wall of the foundation. The unit was placed here to allow us to examine the intersection of the interior eastern wall and hoping beyond hope to locate a builder's trench.

Units 10 and 12 were located in the basement of the Hollow structure. Unit 10's northeast corner was located 7 feet west of the intersection of the interior wall and the foundation. It is located along the northern foundation of the building and was a 5 by 5-foot unit. Units 11 and 12 formed an L shape with unit 12 being a 1' (east/west) unit by 2' (north/south) tucked into the northeast corner of the building and Unit 11, abutting Unit 12 to the south, was a 1' (north/south) x 2' (east/west) unit. Both units were placed

against the interior eastern wall to investigate the relationship between the northern and eastern walls, and to attempt to date the construction of the eastern wall.

Archaeological Results

Archaeological Survey

The results of the STP survey revealed a possible late eighteenth century occupation of the area identified by the presence of creamware (1762-1820) (Pittman 2000: 20), and hand-made(wrought) nails which are used until 1790 (Pittman 2000: 52). Pearlware (1790-1830) (Pitman 2000:22) and hand-headed machine cut nails (1790-1815) (Hume 1969: 253), though possibly deposited during the eighteenth century were excluded because the earliest manufacturing date (TPQ, terminus post quem) post-dates the Marshall period of occupation.

No intact eighteenth century strata were discovered. Artifacts that could be confidently related to a late 18th-century occupation equaled 1.01% (14/1383) of the total artifacts discovered during the STP survey. However if one looks strictly at the test pits that proved positive for Marshall period artifacts the numbers change to 4.49% of the total number of artifacts found. Using 1950 as the approximate cut off date for the occupation of The Hollow tract the nine-year Marshall occupation represents only 4.87% (9/185 years) of the known habitation of this land. Thus any artifacts containing 4.87% or greater possible Marshall period artifacts may represent the Marshall occupation.

A plow zone was identified across the site but the area to the north of the house appears to have seen the most recent plowing based on the makeup and looseness of the soil. The soils within 8 to 10-feet of the timber-frame house on all sides have been severely compacted (see profiles of STP's 3/2 and 4/2). When the artifact distribution is examined across the site the period artifacts are dominant in the area between transects 3 and 5. Transects three and five run just south and north, respectively, of the house and four is centered on the house. The outliers, pockets of Marshall period artifacts, STP 1/1 (3/21 or 14.29%), STP 5/5 (1/45 or 2.22%) and STP 8/2 (3/217 or 1.38%) also were selected for further exploration via test units.

Overall excavations revealed that:

1. The soil depletion/deflation within the immediate 8-10 foot area of the house needs to be further examined
2. The area to the north of the house was received the most recent and intense plowing. This conclusion is based on the loose texture of the soil, the noticeable furrows across the yard, and the artifact size.
3. The area within the southeast corner of the fenced-in yard that surrounds the house appeared to be the least affected by modern plowing. We are assuming this is because of the 1888 addition and the protection it provided.
4. The later nineteenth-and twentieth-century occupations dominate the entire area we investigated.

Test Units

The units placed around the foundation of the timber-frame structure answered the questions posed by the architectural historians. These units provided an opportunity to examine the foundation and to look for a builder's trench. Evidence of a builder's trench was not found due to the building methods used during the foundation's construction. The foundation continues for only a single course below modern grade before abruptly 'stepping-in' approximately 0.6-feet towards the basement. This step-in causes the foundation, which extends above modern grade to create an overhang, or an L-shaped void, that is filled with soil. No artifacts were recovered from the soil removed from this area. However, the amount of excavation beneath the step in was limited by concern for the stability of the foundation.

The STP survey demonstrated the severe deflation or heavy disturbance of the area surrounding the house. No eighteenth century artifacts, beside wrought nails (which were seen falling out of the building as the excavations occurred), were discovered near the house. It appears that the nineteenth or twentieth century landscaping removed evidence of the late eighteenth-century activity in the immediate vicinity of the house.

The excavation of the units in the yard recovered artifacts that date to the Marshall period of occupation, but no secure context was discovered. These artifacts were found across the site, but occurred in very low frequencies. A circular drive was identified in the southeastern corner of the fenced in yard (Unit 6) and photographic research shows this servicing the 1883 addition.

In the basement, the looseness of the soil has allowed artifacts to slowly percolate through the soil and has created a mix of artifacts. There were artifacts identified from the Marshall period representing 7% and 8% of the total number of artifacts found in these layers, and all early artifacts occurred towards the bottom of the units. Unfortunately nineteenth-century artifacts also occurred in the lowermost levels of the units located in the basement. However we still believe this to be an ideal spot for future work and the reasons why will be discussed in the conclusion.

Overall artifacts point to an ephemeral late eighteenth century occupation of the site. Out of the 8,825 artifacts recovered from both the STP survey and the units, 85 artifacts date to the Marshall period 0.96% of the total artifacts found. No eighteenth-century strata were discovered. Identifying a nine year span in the midst of a 185 year occupation is difficult to say the least. What can be said confidently is that there is a late eighteenth century component to the Hollow site, suggested by the presence of ceramics (creamware, 1762-1820 Pittman 2000: 20, whitesalt glazed stoneware, 1744-1765 Pittman 2000: 30) and wrought nails (used until 1790) (Pittman 2000: 20, 30,52), how to determine the significants of the component will be discussed in the conclusion.

Excavation Results

Unit 1

Unit 1 was located on the eastern elevation of the standing house. This unit was centered along the eastern elevation to explore the possibility that a second exterior end-chimney existed. The architectural historians' discovered circular-sawn timbers, dated to the late 19th century, inserted into the structure along the eastern elevation. This evidence, the possible window relocation in the garret, and the laws of Georgian Symmetry led the architectural historians' to believe a second chimney had existed within the center of the east wall. Today no chimney exists and archaeological investigation does not provide evidence for the placement of a chimney along the eastern elevation.

Unit 1 was a 3' (East/West) X 6'(North/South) unit running along the eastern foundation of the frame house. Layer A was the topsoil/humus layer and was a dark brown (2.5Y3/2) silty loam, with a 2% mixture of brownish orange (10YR5/8) clay loam. Artifacts were few and modern, with 89% of the artifacts architectural. The dominance of architectural artifacts appears to be due to a roof replacement that occurred after 1962. This date is based on a pull-tab beer can found within this layer, and provides a TPQ (date after which) of 1962 (Pittman 1984: 47) for the layer and the reroofing. This reroofing episode is seen in the archaeological record by 26 tin-roofing fragments out of the 32 artifacts found within layer A. Other artifacts found in this layer were 3 flat (window) glass fragments, 6 cement fragments, and 2 green plastic comb fragments.

Stratum B was approximately 0.2' feet thick but had a much higher artifact density. Layer B was a dark brown (7.5YR3/4) silty clay loam, with low density flecking of orange clay (10YR5/8), and low-density medium-sized stone (greenstone, quartz, and schist). Layer B was interpreted as a modern yard zone. Artifacts breakdown as follows: architectural 51%; domestic 35.4%; miscellaneous 12.7%; and mechanical 1.2%. The figures show clear rise in domestic activity from layer A. Roofing material, and flat glass makeup over one-third of the architectural count, and possibly skew the percentages for stratum B. The concentration of flat (window) glass suggests the presence of a window on the eastern side of the house during the 19th century. Ceramics made up 9.1% (30/331) of the artifact count for this layer and were made up of fragments of whiteware (1805-1840 Pittman 2000: 23), pearlware (1779-1820 Pittman 2000: 22), stoneware's, and yellowware (1830- 1840 Pittman 2000: 25) vessels.

Layer C was a dark brown (10YR3/6) silty loam mottled with 40% orange (7.5YR5/8) clay loam and with inclusions of high density quartz grit and medium density quartz greenstone and schist. Several large (4-8") stones were located at the top of this layer. Layer C covers the entire unit except for the southwest corner where layer D was observed. Stratum C is interpreted as stratification within the yard zone. The statistical breakdown is 44% architectural, 45.4% domestic, 9.2% miscellaneous, 1.7% machinery. This increase in domestic artifacts at the interface of strata B and C supports the hypothesis that layer C represents the last occupation of the Hollow site. Layer C has a

TPQ of 1899 (Pittman 1984: 48) based on portland cement. A concentration of 3-inch wire nails (circa 1850 Pittman 1984: 47) was noticed in the northeast corner. Layer C was very thin (less than .1') and contained a higher amount of quartz overlying layers. Layer D was visible in the southwest corner of the unit but occurred below layer C across the rest of the unit.

Stratum D was a brown (10YR6/8) clay loam mottled with 5% orange (7.5YR5/8) clay loam and 3% dark brown (10YR3/6) silty loam. Heavy iron oxide staining, caused by natural iron ore, was noticed in the southern one-third of the unit. The northern two-thirds of the unit appears to be a quartz vein. The unit was scraped down and artifacts were found within the first 0.1'. It is possible that these artifacts percolated down and are resting on subsoil. A test cut was placed along the southern 2' of the unit and was taken down approximately .5'. No artifacts were discovered. The quartz veining extended across the entire unit and layer was interpreted as transition to subsoil/ subsoil. A TPQ of 1899 was determined for layer D based on the presence of portland cement.

Unit 2

Unit two was located on the northeast corner of the house and was a three-foot (east/west) by 4-foot (north/south) unit. This unit straddled the corner of the house and was located to examine the function of the two recently rediscovered architectural openings on the eastern elevation of the house. Architectural historians' believe that the fenestration represents a later doorway and therefore we were looking for evidence of an entranceway/porch.

Layer A was a very dark gray brown (10YR3/2) silty loam, and was the modern humus and topsoil. It covered the entire unit and 4 large 0.6' stones were discovered at the bottom of this layer. Artifacts included: amber bottle glass fragments; clear modern bottle glass fragments; plastic fragments; portland cement; wire nails; and the head of a cut nail. Domestic artifacts dominated with 48% of the total artifact percentage, and architectural artifacts comprised 28% of the assemblage.

Layer B was a dark gray brown (10YR3/1) silty clay mottled with 25% dark yellowish brown (10YR4/6) silty loam. Layer B covers the northwestern 1/3rd of the unit and was interpreted as a planting feature. It had a shallow amorphous bottom with roots still visible. The large stones observed at the surface of layer B were entirely within that layer. The mix of nineteenth- and -twentieth-century material recovered from layer B included: wire nails; flat glass fragments; textured amber bottle glass fragments; clear vessel glass fragments; a cigarette wrapper; amber bottle glass fragments; clear plastic; black plastic vessel. Domestic artifacts made up 73% of the artifact percentage while architectural had only 12%. A modern TPQ was based on plastic and a cigarette wrapper.

Layer C which dipped beneath stratum B, was a yellowish brown (10YR4/6) silty clay mottled with (10%) dark gray (10YR3/1) silty clay, and 5% yellow brown (10YR6/8) clay. Layer C was a topsoil layer and appears to represent the last occupation

prior to abandonment (same as unit 1 layer C). A much higher artifact density was noticed within layer C when compared with the above strata. The artifact percentages were: domestic artifacts at 45.2%; architectural artifacts at 27%; miscellaneous artifacts at 27%; and machine related at 1.3%. The stone content in layer C was also different (more greenstone less quartz), than observed in layers A and B.

Layer D was a yellow-brown (10YR4/4) clay mottled with 6% yellowish-orange (10YR6/8) clay. This stratum was interpreted as a nineteenth- to twentieth-century occupation zone based on the presence of a modern die-cast metal toy fire truck. A higher density of artifacts was noticed in the southeast corner of the unit. A fragment of creamware and a wrought nail made up 0.29% (2/685) of the artifacts found in this layer.

The vertical distribution of artifacts within this layer was unusual. The majority of artifacts were found in the last .15' of the layer and appeared to be resting on the next layer (G, subsoil). The artifact percentages were: architectural at 41%; domestic 45%; miscellaneous 9.4%; and mechanical 5.2%. A large amount of aqua flat glass (107/658) was found in this layer as well as more nails (wire and cut) than in other units. This increase in construction-related material might indicate that the architectural features on the eastern elevation of the house were in fact window openings and not doorways. It is also possible that the higher density and mix of wire and wrought nails represent a conversion of an earlier window into a later doorway.

Layer E was a dark yellowish-brown (10YR4/6) silty sandy loam mottled with 5% brownish-yellow (10YR6/8) sandy loam, and a 5% gray-brown (10YR4/2) silty loam. Stratum E covered approximately the southern 1/3rd of the unit. E was amorphous in shape and cut into subsoil, but was only .3' deep. Layer G was subsoil and was strong brown (7.5YR4/6) clayish loam mottled with 10% brownish-yellow (10YR6/8) sandy loam and 5% gray brown (10YR4/2) silty loam.

Unit 3

Unit 3 was a 2' X 3' addition to the southern balk of unit 2 to explore a possible builders trench. Layer A was the modern topsoil and humus layer, a light brown (10YR4/6) silty loam mottled with low density (10%) dark brown (10YR3/2) silty loam. The architectural and domestic artifacts were almost evenly split, with architectural artifacts making up 42% and domestic artifacts 47.4% of the artifact count.

Layer B was a brown (10YR4/4) silty loam mottled with 15% dark brown (10YR3/2) silty loam and 3% orange (7.5YR5/8) clay. Layer B was interpreted as a modern yard zone. Strata B showed evidence of the re-roofing observed in Unit 1. Architectural artifacts made up 49.4% of the assemblage, domestic artifacts 27%, and roofing fragments made up 36.7% (29/73) of the total artifact collection. The TPQ for this layer was modern based on the presence of sheet plastic. An abrupt boundary separated strata B, C and D.

Layer C was a dark gray brown (10YR4/2) silty loam mottled with 15% dark brown (10YR3/2) silty loam, 10% orange (7.5YR5/8) clay loam and inclusions of 5% large quartz cobbles and shale. Layer C covered only the eastern one-third of the unit and was very thin and appeared to represent an eroded yard/occupation zone. A TPQ of late 19th century was determined based fragments of tin roofing.

Layer D covered the western two-thirds of the unit and was a dark brown (10YR4/4) silty loam with 15% orange (7.5YR5/8) clay loam and 15% dark brown (10YR3/2) silty loam. Layer D displayed an increase in rock but did not reach the amounts seen in unit one. It is assumed that Layer D was remnants of a late nineteenth century occupation surface.

Layer E was a yellow brown (10YR5/8) sandy loam mottled with 40% dark brown (7.5YR3/2) silty loam and 1% reddish yellow (7.5YR6/8) clay sand. Layer E was located along the northern balk and appears to be an extension of unit 2 layer E. This feature is either a disturbed builders trench or an animal burrow. One artifact was found in unit 3 layer E, a piece of aqua window glass. The low artifact density indicates that this feature pre-dates the mid-nineteenth century, when large amounts of artifacts accumulated around the building. From its appearance it is interpreted as an animal burrow, but more exploration is needed to confirm or deny this.

Layer F was a strong brown (7.5YR5/6) silty clay mottled with (10%) reddish yellow (7.5YR6/8) clay sand, 20% olive brown (2.5Y4/3) silty loam, and 15% dark reddish brown (5YR3/3) clay silt. This layer is a transition to subsoil and has decaying greenstone veins in it. It appears that a transition in soils and bedrock is occurring as we move north (units 2 and 3) to south (unit 1). In unit one quartz veining was present where in units 2 and 3 saprolite forms the bedrock. A test cut was taken along the southern one-third to ensure sterile soil had been reached.

Unit 4

Unit 4 was located at the northwest corner of the house and a four-foot (north/south) by three-foot (east/west) unit. It was placed here to: 1) examine the chimney construction; 2) examine the house foundation; and 3) search for a builder's trench to aid in the dating of the house. No dating evidence was found for the house foundation or the chimney, but architectural details were rediscovered.

Layer A was the topsoil/sod stratum, approximately four-tenths of a foot thick. Layer A was a dark brown (7.5YR3/3) silty clay loam that extended across the entire unit. The artifacts found reflect the modern age of this layer. They include: coal; portland cement; tin roofing fragments; a white-plastic four-holed button; a metal washer; a bone fragment; a wire nail; and a brick fragment. Strata B and C were determined to be different layers due to a distinct change in color from layer A, but were determined to be different from one another based on a slight color change and percentages of mottling.

Layer B was a strong brown (7.5YR5/8) clay mottled with high density (45%) brown (10YR4/3) silty loam. It was located along the southern quarter of the unit, abutting the chimney, and was 0.15 foot thick. This is a possible builder's/ repointing trench along the chimney foundation. A cut nail, a fragment of green wine bottle glass, and several fragments of portland cement were found. A TPQ of 1899 was determined for layer B based on the portland cement fragments. Layer B proved to be informative because it allowed us to see the base of the chimney. The chimney sits on one or two large slab stones very near the surface. The ephemeral nature of this building method would leave little in the archaeological record and may be the reason that no evidence for a chimney was seen on the east side of the house (Unit 1).

Layer C covered the northern three-quarters of the unit and was a late-nineteenth- to early-twentieth-century occupation zone. Stratum C was a yellowish brown (10YR5/8) silty loam mixed with 50% gray brown (10YR4/4) silty loam and 15% inclusions of mortar flecking, 30% fieldstone fragments, and 2% brick fragments. Artifacts found included: a cut nail; a wire fencing staple; brick fragments; aqua flat glass; mortar; portland cement; and bone fragments. A TPQ of 1850 is based on the presence of a wire-fencing staple.

Layer D was a transition to subsoil and was sterile except for the presence of a few brick artifacts in the upper 0.2-0.3 feet of this stratum. Layer D was a strong brown (7.5YR5/8) clay loam mottled with 20% very dark brown (10YR2/2) silty clay loam. In addition to soil color and texture, layer D differed from the overlaying strata due to the presence of greenstone. A TPQ of 1899 was based on the presence of portland cement.

Layer E was a disturbance that cut into layer F. Layer E was a strong brown (7.5YR4/6) gritty clay loam with a patch of red (2.5YR 5/8) gritty clay (possibly burned). Layer E was first believed to be a posthole due to its shape in plan view, but excavation revealed an amorphous bottom and a shallow depression (0.1' thick). The attributes of layer E point towards floral or faunal disturbance.

Layer F (subsoil) was a strong brown (7.5YR4/6) silty clay with 20% shale. A test cut was placed along the southern two-feet of the unit and was excavated .3' (roughly one course). An architectural drawing of the house and chimney's stone foundation within the unit were completed, photos were taken, and a profile drawing of the soil stratigraphy was completed.

Unit 5

Unit 5 was placed 40' south 0' east/west of the 0',0' point, and was a 5 x 5-foot unit placed at the site of an STP (5/5) that had a concentration of Marshall period artifacts. This unit was located in the less disturbed southeastern portion of the yard. Layer A was STP 5/5 which vertically cut through the entire depth of the unit. Layer B

was dark yellowish brown (10YR3/4) silty/sandy loam mottled with 10% yellowish brown (10YR5/6) sandy loam and was a sod/topsoil mixture. No artifacts were found. Layer C was the remainder of the plow zone. One creamware fragment was found, equaling .54% (1/185) of the artifacts discovered within this layer. A plan drawing was made within layer C when several large (.8'-1.0') stones were encountered as well as a single brick. The stones were believed to be from the foundation of the 1880's addition and may have been deposited during its deconstruction in the mid-twentieth century. Layer D was subsoil and was not cut into. A drawing of the north profile was made and the unit was backfilled.

Unit 6

The northwest corner of unit 6 was placed at 60' south and 50' west of the (0,0) point. It was a 5-foot by 5-foot unit placed between STP 1/1 and STP 2/1. This location was chosen because of a deeply-stratified test pit (1/1) and the discovery of several artifacts which fall into the period of the Marshall's occupation.

Layer A was a topsoil and humus layer that covered the whole unit and consisted a medium brown (10YR3/3) silty clay loam. Artifacts ranged from modern to late-eighteenth /early-nineteenth-century.

Layer B was a brown (10YR3/3) silty clay loam with 2% orange clay mottling and inclusions of 5% stone and low density (1%) brick, and charcoal fragments. Layer B was a plowzone. Despite of a modern TPQ, based on plastic, 0.23% or 6/266 late-eighteenth-century artifacts were found than in this layer.

Layer C was a 10YR3/4 yellow brown silty clay mottled with 10% (7.5YR5/6) strong brown clay and inclusions of 1% brick and charcoal flecking. It covered the northwest corner and was believed to be a part of the plow zone. Layer C contained 2 wrought nail fragments which made up 1.35% (2/148) of the artifacts in this layer.

Layer D was a 50/50 mixture of brown (10YR3/3) silty clay loam and brownish orange (10YR4/6) clay loam with high density of small to medium stone (quartz, shale, saprolite). Layer D was interpreted as road fill because of the high density stone and the curved boundaries of the layer. The presence of the road matches photos that show a circular drive that serviced the west side of the house after the 1883 addition. The Marshall period is represented by 5.41% (8/148) of the artifacts recovered in this strata. The artifacts were all wrought nails and provide our largest concentration of Marshall period artifacts in the yard units.

Layer E was located in the northwest corner and was a dark yellowish (10YR4/6) brown clay loam mottled with 50% dark yellowish (10YR3/4) brown loam and inclusions of 1% brick and charcoal flecking. Layer E was a transition to sub-soil. A profile of the north and west profiles were drawn.

Unit 7

Unit 7 was placed 49.2' northwest of the northeast corner of the house at 189 degrees west of north. Unit 7 was 5'x5' and was placed to examine a cluster of Marshall period artifacts identified in STP 7/3. Layer A was the topsoil and humus layer and was a brown (10YR4/3) silty loam. Artifacts ranged in age from a wire nail to a fragment of pearlware. Artifact density increased as the excavators near the bottom of the layer.

Layer B was a brown (10YR4/2) silty clay loam mottled with a 1% strong brown (7.5YR5/8) clay. Layer B contained a thick root mat. Artifacts included a plastic shotgun shell as well as 2 hand-wrought nails (2/325).

Layer C was the base of the plowzone and was a dark brown (10YR3/3) sandy loam mottled with 20% yellowish brown (10YR3/6) clay. It covered the entire unit and the artifacts represent the entire range of occupation of the Hollow. Three creamware fragments and 1 wrought-nail fragment made up 3.74% (4/107) of the total number of artifacts found in this layer and provide evidence for a late-eighteenth-century occupation.

Layer D was a yellowish brown (10YR5/6) sandy clay with 5% (10YR4/3) brown sandy clay and was a transition to subsoil. Five percent of the artifacts found (2/40) dated to the late 18th century while the rest of the artifacts appear to represent the 19th century occupation of the Hollow.

Unit 8

Unit 8 was a 5-foot by 5-foot unit in which the northeast corner was located at 60'N/15'W. Unit 8 was purposively placed just west of the stone-lined depression located in the northeast corner of the fenced-in yard, in order to identify the function of the depression. Upon removal of the sod and topsoil a large amount of tree roots were uncovered which were associated with a large oak tree that grows just north of the depression. The roots were substantial (over 1 inch) and it was decided to abandon the excavation rather than to risk killing the tree.

Unit 9

Unit 9 was a 3-foot by 5-foot unit located 4-feet west of the northeast corner (the 0,0 point of the grid) and abutted the foundation of the small timber-frame house. Layer A was the topsoil and root mat. A dark brown (10YR3/3) silty clay loam with inclusions of 2% charcoal flecking comprised layer A. Stratum A contained a wrought nail and metal roofing fragments.

Layer B was a brown (10YR4/3) silty loam mottled with 2% brownish yellow (10YR6/8) clay. The artifacts in layer B were similar to that of layer A in both age and density.

Layer C was a yellowish brown (10YR4/6) clay loam mottled with a dark brown (10YR3/3) silty loam. This stratum was located along the western bulk and after testing it was interpreted as an undulation in the subsoil. No dateable artifacts were recovered.

Layer D was a brown (10YR4/3) silty loam mottled with 10% yellowish brown (10YR4/6) clay loam, and 4% (7.5YR5/6) strong brown compact clay with inclusions of 3% 1-3 cm quartz pebbles. Layer D was a twentieth-century occupation zone though 0.66% (2/302) of the artifacts could be dated to the late-eighteenth-century.

Layer E was a strong brown (7.5YR4/6) clay loam mottled with 40% dark yellow brown (10YR3/6) sandy clay and 10% yellowish brown (10YR5/6) sandy clay. A saprolite vein occurred in the southern portion of the unit. However it appears that this layer is a continuation of layer D based on the presence of a mix of artifacts from wire nails to a spatula tipped wrought nail. The single eighteenth century artifact mentioned, a wrought nail, equals 2.7% (1/37) of the artifacts found in this layer. Layers G through M (excluding the letter I, not used) were all root/rodent disturbances. Layer N, which covered the entire unit, was the transition to subsoil. Several modern artifacts were recovered within the root disturbances. Layer P was a test cut placed in the southeastern corner of the unit. No artifacts were found and the soil appeared undisturbed.

The Basement

Units in the basement were excavated through the use of halogen lamps and a generator. The use of the lamps provided a unique view of the foundation and the timbers. All soils were placed in buckets and screened outside to provide better ventilation, visibility, and thus better recovery rate. The basement excavations were performed to search for intact eighteenth-century strata, as well as examine the methods used in construction of the foundation.

Unit 10

Halogen lamps and a generator were used to provide the light needed to work in this environment. The unit's northeast corner was located 7 feet west of the interior eastern wall along the north side of the building. Unit 10 was a 3 by 3-foot unit placed to explore the stratigraphy within the basement and to provide a look at the construction of the foundation.

Layer A was a yellowish brown (10YR5/4) silt with inclusions of high density (20%) wood chips. Layer A was the present basement surface and was loose, dry, and dominated by 20th-century domestic artifacts.

Layer B was a dark yellowish brown (10YR7/8) silt. A new layer designation was made because of a slight color change and a loss of the wood fragments which were so abundant in layer A. Layer B was interpreted as a possible 20th-century occupation zone. The discovery of 68 sheet or roofing metal fragment may suggest contemporaneity with unit 1 layer A. Unit 1 layer A was dated to post 1962 based on the presence of a

pop-top for a beer can, and was the layer which was most representative of the reroofing episode.

Layer C was a dark gray brown (10Y4/2) silty loam mottled with 2% strong brown (7.5YR5/8) silty clay loam. This layer was slightly more compacted and the preservation was very good, fish scales and eggshells were found in this twentieth century occupation surface. The high number of nails 107/787 (13.60%) in comparison to layer B 25/315 (7.94%), denotes a difference in activity. The mix of modern (wire) and older nails and the presence of 132 metal roofing fragments most likely relates to the removal of the old roof and construction of the modern folded metal roofing. Layer C had 3 wrought nails and this formed 0.38% (3/787) of the artifacts recovered from this layer.

Layer D was a 50% mix of strong brown (7.5YR5/8) silty loam and a dark brown (10YR4/3) silty loam. It was slightly more compact than the above layer and may represent a floor or occupation surface and dates to the mid-to-early-twentieth-century. Layer D had 6 artifacts, all wrought nails, that dated from the Marshall period of occupation. These artifacts equaled 1.52% (6/395) of artifacts recovered from this layer. However, this layer was interpreted as a late-nineteenth-to-early-twentieth-century floor/occupation zone based on the mixture of whiteware, machine-molded glass, and press-molded decoration on this glass. Preservation was again excellent, with a large amount of bone (small mammal) recovered.

Layer E was a dark yellowish brown (10YR3/4) loam mottled with 5% small pockets of strong brown (7.5YR5/8) clay and 1% charcoal fragments and flecking. A lesser number of artifacts were recovered from layer E. It was interpreted as a late nineteenth-to-early-twentieth-century occupation zone based on the presence of: machine molded clear glass; whiteware; and a plastic screw top (toothpaste lid). One (a wrought nail) of the 221 artifacts, or .45% of the artifacts found within the layer, dated to the 18th century.

Layer F was a brown (10YR4/3) silty clayish loam mottled with 7% strong brown (7.5YR5/6) clay and inclusions of 2% charcoal fragments. The artifact count decreased and a shift in artifact types occurred. The ratio of glassware to ceramics was less than 2:1 in layer F, where in the layer E (a fairly representative layer in terms of the disproportionate amount of glass to ceramic in the above strata) the ratio was over 7:1. This shift requires further analysis than can be provided in the initial artifact analysis and deserves further attention. Layer F was interpreted as a late-nineteenth-century occupation zone based on the presence of: whiteware; machine-molded glass; and crown cap bottle lid. This assumes that the few modern artifacts found worked their way down through time. A single piece of tin-glaze from a ceramic earthenware vessel was our only possible eighteenth-century artifact discovered, and equaled 0.79% (1/127) of the artifact total found within the layer.

Layer G was a brown (10YR4/3) silty loam mottled with 7% strong brown (7.5YR5/8) clay and with inclusions of 2% charcoal flecking, 1% brick flecking, and 5%

plaster fragments and flecking. The color change between layer F and G was minimal but the appearance of plaster inclusions suggested a distinct deposit. Layer G, interpreted as a nineteenth-century occupation zone had two artifacts, (1.53% (2/131), which dated to the eighteenth century (a wrought nail, and a kaolin pipestem). The glass to ceramic ratio within the layer was 3:1, a general decrease in glass accompanied by an increase in the amount of ceramics present. A dramatic decrease in the presence of wire nails within layer F (4 fragments) when compared to the two previous layers (layer E with 7 wire nail fragments and 15 wire nails, and layer F with 9 wire nail fragments) shows a steady decrease in the presence of modern artifacts. The soils that compose the basement strata are extremely loose and lack any compaction making the probability of artifact movement or settling is high.

Layer H, a dark yellowish brown (10YR3/6) silty clayish loam mottled with 10% strong brown (7.5YR5/8) clay with inclusions of 1% charcoal flecking and 5% plaster flecking, was the first secure nineteenth century strata at one-foot below modern grade is very significant. Layer H was interpreted as a mid nineteenth-century occupation zone based on the press molded glass, and the lack of wire nails. Layer H shows a dramatic increase in artifact number, 319 total artifacts, which may reflect the last occupation of the timber-framed house prior to the 1883 two-story addition on the southern side of the house. The glass to ceramic ratio reversed that observed in layers F and G, with the ceramics beginning to outnumber the glassware at 1.4:1. Seven of two-hundred and nineteen (2.19%) of the total artifacts found within the layer may have dated to the Marshall period (six creamware fragments and one wrought nail fragment). An explosion of flat (window) glass, 104 fragments, indicates a distinctly different assemblage than that recovered from the overlying strata.

Layer J was a brown (7.5YR4/3) clay loam with inclusions of less than 1% charcoal and brick flecking or bats, and 3% shell. It was interpreted as an early-to mid-nineteenth-century occupation zone. The excavator noted the loose texture of the soil and a very secure 19th-century context. The ceramics remained the most common artifact with 1.21:1 ceramic to glass ratio. The Marshall period was represented with 7 out of 82 or 8.53% of the artifacts discovered dating from their period of occupation. The artifacts that may represent the Marshall period in this stratum included three creamware fragments, two white salt-glazed stoneware fragments (1740- 1765), and two wrought nail fragments. Twenty-eight pounds of fieldstone was encountered throughout the unit. This stone was the same material the foundation was made of and may represent a repair. The presence of white salt-glazed stoneware is significant because it is the only artifact found during the entire project which truly represents the beginning of the time period in which the Marshall's occupied the Hollow tract of land.

Level K was a brown (7.5YR4/4) clay loam mottled with 3% strong brown (7.5YR5/8) loam with inclusions of 2% charcoal, plaster and mortar fragmenting and flecking. Layer K was interpreted as an occupation zone/ floor and 8.57% (3/35) of the artifacts potentially dated to the Marshall occupation (3 creamware fragments). Field stones and brick were encountered as the bottom of K was approached, similar to the stones encountered in units 11 and 12. The presence of brick is an anomaly, due to the

lack of brick construction on the property and thus appears to represent a later repair. The fact that these stones and brick were left in the basement appears to mean that the structure was already complete when these stones were deposited.

Layer L was a plaster floor with 35% brown (10YR5/3) clay loam. This layer covered the southern half only and sat directly on bedrock (layer M). The presence of what appears to be a plaster floor in the basement was not expected but was encountered in both units 10 and 12. At Ferry Farm and Mount Vernon plastered subterranean floors occurred in dairy/ cold-storage areas. A profile was drawn of the eastern profile and extensive photographic documentation was done for the basement units.

Unit 11

Unit 11 was a 1-foot (north/south) by 2-foot (east/west) unit. The northeast corner was located 2 foot from the northeast corner and ran along the southern bulk of unit 12. Unit 11 was placed to expand the excavation of unit 12 in attempts to get below the stones that had halted excavation in the unit. The numbering of units 11 and 12 were opposite the order of excavation because we had unknowingly skipped number 11.

Layer A was the present basement surface and was a loose dark yellowish brown (10YR3/4) loam. The artifacts were a mix of nineteenth-and-twentieth century goods.

Layer B was a loosely compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR3/4) loam mottled with slightly more compact 30% strong brown (7.5YR5/8) clay loam. Layer B covered the western half of the unit, and was interpreted as another surface/floor. Layer B contained the same mix of modern to nineteenth century artifacts with 3.70% (1/27) of the artifacts (a wrought nail) possibly dating to the Marshall period of occupation.

Layer C was located on the northern half of the unit and abutted the interior wall foundation. The layer was a dark yellowish brown (10YR3/6) loam and was loosely compacted. Layer C was interpreted as a repointing or builders trench . Two large fragments of ironstone and one creamware fragment (1/52 fragments or 1.92%) were discovered within the trench. The layer had 7 oz of Portland cement in it and was intrusive to layer B.

Layer D covered the entire unit and was a dark yellowish brown (10YR3/6) loam mottled with 3% strong brown (7.5YR5/8) clay loam. This layer was interpreted as an occupation surface. Six wrought nails, 6/123 or 4.88% of the total number of artifacts discovered, dated to the late eighteenth century.

Layer E covered the northern 1/3rd of the unit and was a dark brown (10YR3/3) loam mottled with 10% (7.5YR5/8) strong brown clay loam. It seems to represent a construction trench since the foundation ended near the base of the layer. The presence of creamware in the builder's trench is significant, yet does not allow us to assign a date for the eastern interior wall because of the intense movement of artifacts within the loose soils.

Layer E was intrusive to layer F, G, H, and I. Layer F was a dark yellowish brown (10YR3/4) loam and was interpreted as an occupational floor surface and was similar to unit 12 layers C and D. This artifacts in this layer appear to reflect a mid-nineteenth-century occupation zone. An 1844 penny, "Head of 1844" Mature Head with a usage range of 1843-1857 confirms this. The ceramics, whiteware and pearlware, support this date.

Layer G covered the unit and was a dark yellowish brown (10YR4/4) clay loam mottled with mortar, brick, and charcoal fragments and flecking. Stones and brick fragments were strewn throughout the unit and were removed during the excavation. These stones were similar to those discovered in unit 12 layer D and unit 10 layer H and most likely represents wall repair (see discussion in unit 10 summary).

Layer H was a dark yellowish brown (10YR3/6) clay loam and rested atop a plaster floor. This layer covered the northern 1/3rd of the unit and was very thin. Layer I was the plaster floor and bedrock. This layer is the same as unit 10 layer L and is interpreted as a cold storage area.

Unit 12

Unit 12 was located in the northeast corner of the basement and was 1-foot (east/west) by 2-foot (north/south). It was placed in this corner for two purposes; the first was to explore an opening in the eastern interior basement wall believed by the Architectural Historians to be a possible bulkhead entrance. The second purpose was to examine the above-mentioned eastern interior wall, its period of construction, the way it joined the other outside foundation wall, and the subsurface construction of the wall.

Layer A was the present basement surface and was a loose dark yellowish brown (10YR3/4) loam. This layer held a mix of late 19th century to 20th century artifacts.

Layer B was a 50/50 mix of strong brown (7.5YR 5/8) clay loam and dark yellowish brown (10YR3/4) loam and extended northeast from the center of the eastern bulk. It was part of the present basement fill and was dominated by modern artifacts.

Layer C was a dark yellowish brown (10YR3/4) loam and was slightly more compacted than the above-mentioned layers. Layer C was interpreted as an occupational surface and one artifact dating to the Marshall period (a single wrought nail fragment, 1/109 or .92%) was discovered. This layer contained a mix of modern nineteenth-and-late-eighteenth-century artifacts. It appears to represent the last period of occupation with such items as nylon pantyhose and plastic comb fragments recovered from layer C. Several stones were visible at the surface of the layer. These greenstone cobbles were removed during the excavation and are of the same materials comprising the foundation.

Layer D was a dark yellowish brown (10YR3/4) loam with a higher clay content, more compacted soils than layer C. Stratum D was interpreted as a late nineteenth-

century occupation zone. The excavation of the unit was halted prior to reaching the bedrock due to the presence of stones that prohibited further excavation. These stones were the same material as the ones used in the foundation and appear to represent either the construction of the foundation, the interior eastern wall, or repairs to either one wall. A whiteware fragment was discovered at the base of the layer atop of the stones. 2 of the 68 (5.88%) artifacts (wrought nails) dated to the Marshall period. Unit 12 was halted at approximately 1.2 feet below modern grade due to the presence of a large number of stones.

Conclusions/Recommendations

The Hollow not only holds the possibility of being a regional learning center but is a cache of knowledge for archaeologists as well. I believe that the excavation of the basement of the Hollow was by far the most intriguing and holds the most potential of the excavations done during this project. First, lighting up the basement with halogen lamps allowed us to see many architectural details we had missed in previous flash light excursions. The eastern interior wall (tested with Units 11 and 12) does not appear to be a phase one-construction. The wall does not tie in to the northern foundation, but instead cuts through it. This jointing is not visible on the southern wall because of the repointing. The stones are not interlocked at the northeast corner and the interior wall base is approximately a half-a-foot shallower than the northern wall. This is worth reexamining as it may coincide with some interior alterations.

Second, the loose soil in the basement has allowed artifacts to move after deposition. The rodents, bugs, and people that have visited the basement have also affected the stratigraphic record. Despite the absence of pure eighteenth-century deposits, the stratigraphic sequence observed in units 10-12 demonstrates the presence of eighteenth-century artifacts in the lowermost layers. In addition, the apparent shift from a predominance of ceramic to a glassware dominated assemblage, so evident in Unit 10, demonstrates a change in behavior over time. Therefore, this data from the basement could contribute to an understanding of eighteenth-and-nineteenth-century Virginia history.

The artifacts recovered from the Hollow site allows for a late 18th-century component. The challenge is to now decipher if that component reflects the Marshall period occupation of the site. This is an extremely difficult task. The architectural historians say the timber-frame house could date to the late 18th century; the dendrochronology provides dates for the felling of the timbers. The documents have not yet given a resounding answer, and all archaeology can say to date, is a 1760's construction is possible. The nineteenth-and-twentieth-century occupations of the site were extremely destructive to the ephemeral and fragile late 18th-century occupation. The geology and geography of the eastern Blue Ridge do not allow for much soil build up. Therefore, we have to either find a site at the Hollow that was not reused in the later centuries, or find some deep substantial features such as, post holes, wells, etc that would not be as sensitive to later ground disturbance.

A shovel test pit survey of the entire Hollow tract is an essential first step towards the location of eighteenth-century features and artifact concentrations. While some of the slopes can obviously be written off, and the soil surveys can be used to determine high probability areas, surveying the entire tract would be beneficial for several reasons. It would allow us to see what other resources are out there. Are there any pristine 18th-century sites, or features, or are there any sites that have been reused in the same intensity by the next centuries that would give us a comparative sample? In addition, survey would eliminate portions of the Hollow property as potential eighteenth-century occupations narrowing the search for the Marshall home. It would also allow the planning for the future use of the land to begin on the correct foot. Knowing early on what resources are available and where they are located can prevent future mistakes and headaches.