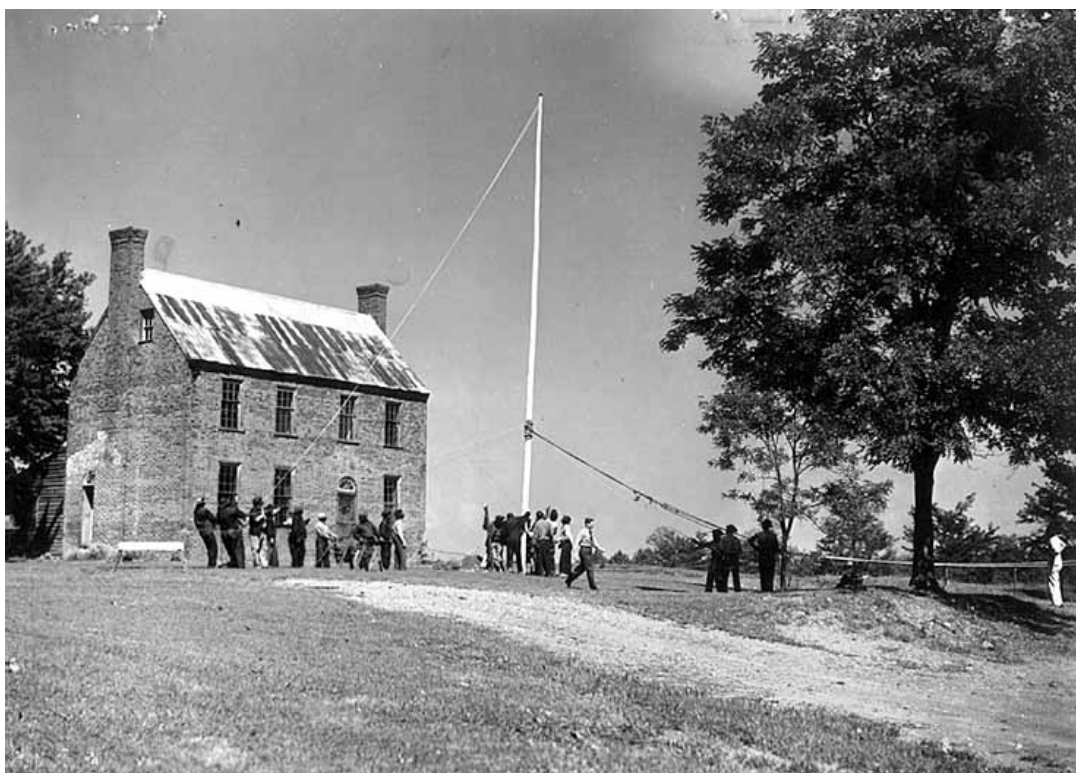

National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2001

Revised: 7/2025



Appomattox Court House Village
Appomattox Court House National Historical Park

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Introduction

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the National Park System. Landscapes that are listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources and in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire, legal interest are included in the inventory. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, and condition. Cultural landscapes have approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS-CL) database. In addition, for landscapes not currently listed on the National Register and/or without adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or the Keeper of the National Register.

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is compiled from primary and secondary sources and through on-site surveys of the landscape. The level of investigation is dependent upon scoping the need for information. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's integrity and an assessment of the landscape's condition. The CLI also includes historic maps, drawings, and images; photographs of existing conditions; and a site plan that indicates major features. The CLI documents the existing condition of park landscape resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to stabilize condition. This information can be used to develop strategies for improved stewardship. Unlike a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape, but it may identify stabilization measures.

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) replaces three legacy inventory systems: ASMIS (archeology), CLI (cultural landscapes), and LCS (historic structures); and it reinstates the former ERI (ethnographic resources). This Cultural Landscape Inventory document reflects the information in a corresponding CRIS Cultural Landscape record.

Statutory and Regulatory Foundation

The legislative, regulatory, and policy directives for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)) Sec. 110
- Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3 (a and c)
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs
- Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Std. 2
- Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22; issued pursuant to Director's Order #28 (DO-28)

The NHPA requires the identification, evaluation, and nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places and the maintenance and expansion of an inventory of cultural resources. DO-28 requires a cyclic assessment of the current condition of cultural landscapes based on an assessment interval, with a default of six years.

Use

Beyond fulfilling legal and policy requirements, park staff can use the Cultural Landscape Inventory in the following ways:

- To learn about park cultural landscapes (all staff)
- To inform management decisions (park managers)
- To inform project planning and development (park managers, facility managers, project managers, compliance specialists)
- To monitor the condition of the cultural landscape and take measures to protect its significance and integrity (cultural resource managers, facility managers)
- To recognize the stabilization and treatment needs of landscape features and plan work within cultural landscapes to address the needs (facility managers, cultural resource managers)
- To understand the cultural value of natural systems in a cultural landscape (natural resource managers)
- To create programming and educational materials based on site history (interpretation and education specialists)
- To recognize impacts within cultural landscapes and enforce protection measures (visitor and resources protection staff)

General Information

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Appomattox Court House Village
Resource Classification:	Component Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	300120
Parent Landscape:	300089
Inventory Status:	Complete

Park Information

Park Name:	Appomattox Court House National Historical Park
Alpha Code:	APCO
Park Organization Code:	4180
Park District:	APCO
Region:	Northeast
Restricted:	Yes

Landscape Description:

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park is a rehabilitated 19th century Virginia courthouse town and surrounding agricultural landscape that commemorates Robert E. Lee's surrender to Ulysses S. Grant there in 1865, ending the Civil War and beginning the peace. The village homes, outbuildings, and businesses formed a hub for county government dating from the 1840s. Of the 27 existing structures in the village, 14 have been reconstructed. The focal point of the village is the reconstructed Courthouse building, which now houses the Visitor Center. The village as a whole offers a cohesive experience of a rural courthouse town of its time, with narrow lanes surfaced in crushed stone and grass leading the visitor among homes, fenced yards, and outbuildings; the tavern, jail and store; small family burial plots; and orchards. Sweeping views of the surrounding pastureland and forested hills are visible throughout the village.

Appomattox Court House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is noted for its association with the final battle of the Civil War and Lee's surrender to Grant, and with the lives of Lee, Grant, and others commanders who served there. The period of significance for both these criteria is 1865. In addition it is significant for the distinctive characteristics of architecture for the ensemble of restored or reconstructed buildings in the village, and the values of commemoration and conservation expressed through them. The period of significance for architecture is currently noted in the National Register documentation as 1930, and for historic preservation as 1935-1940.

The condition of the village core landscape is good. The village is generally well-maintained and retains integrity of location, feeling and setting for the rural courthouse town it represents. With a few exceptions, it also illustrates the materials and workmanship of both this 1865 period and the period of commemoration. Vistas within the park and to adjacent lands are somewhat more restricted than they historically would have been, but create the setting and feeling of the rural community in 1865. The landscape characteristics of the village generally retain integrity to 1865 or the period of commemoration.

Landscape Hierarchy Description:

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park consists of one individual landscape, which includes the greater area of the park with its fields, forest, cemeteries, and buildings outside of the village. Within that landscape, the village of Appomattox Court House is a separate component landscape.

The park is located in the Chesapeake Cluster of the Northeast Region of the National Park Service.

Landscape Type:

Historic Site

Historic Vernacular Landscape

Other Names:

Other Name:	Appomattox Battlefield Site	Other Name Type:	Historic
Other Name:	Appomattox Court House	Other Name Type:	Historic
Other Name:	Appomattox Court House National Historical Monument	Other Name Type:	Historic
Other Name:	Appomattox Court House National Historical Park	Other Name Type:	Current
Other Name:	Clover Hill	Other Name Type:	Historic

Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	12/14/2001

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

The Level 0 information, initially gathered by David Sonka in June, 1997, was updated and incorporated into Level I. In the summer of 1999, the field survey work for Level I was done by student interns Fowler and Ong under the supervision of Brown. Brown and Fowler did the Level II field work in May and completed the report in the summer of 2000. Sams assisted with the editing of the maps.

The park Cultural Landscapes Inventory contact is Ron Wilson, Historian/Chief of Interpretation, who can be reached at 804-352-8987.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Reed Johnson 8/8/07
Superintendent, Appomattox Court House National Historical Park Date

**Cultural Landscapes Inventory
Condition Reassessment
2013**

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park
Landscape
Village

Appomattox Courthouse National Historical Park concurs with the condition reassessments for the Landscape and Village, including:

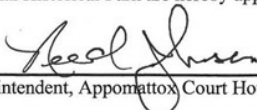
CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Fair – Landscape
Good – Village

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

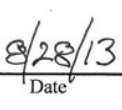
Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the landscape characteristics will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The condition reassessments for the Landscape and Village at Appomattox Courthouse National Historical Park are hereby approved and accepted.



Superintendent, Appomattox Court House National Historical Park



Date

Condition reassessment form, August 28, 2013.

Appomattox Court House Village
Appomattox Court House National Historical Park

Park Concurrence

I have reviewed and hereby approve the final Cultural Landscapes Inventory reports for
Appomattox Court House Landscape and Appomattox Court House Village, dated
8/4/2000.


Reed Johnson
Park Superintendent

Date 12/14/00

Park concurrence form, December 14, 2000.



MAY 29 2001

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Historic Resources

2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221

James S. Gilmore, III
Governor

John Paul Woodley, Jr.
Secretary of Natural Resources

Kathleen S. Kilpatrick
Director

Tel: (804) 367-2323
Fax: (804) 367-2391
TDD: (804) 367-2386
www.dhr.state.va.us

May 24, 2001

Mr. Reed Johnson
Superintendent
National Park Service
Appomattox Court House
Post Office Box 218
Appomattox, Virginia 24522-0218

Re: Cultural Landscape Inventory for Appomattox Court House Landscape and Village
DHR File Number 2001-0061

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Cultural Landscape Inventory for the Appomattox Courthouse Landscape and Appomattox Courthouse Village. Overall, the DHR finds that the document provides a comprehensive inventory of the landscape and structures at the park. We offer the following comments with regards to our concurrence with the NPS findings:

1. The DHR concurs with the NPS that the landscape is potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). We also concur with the NPS determination as to the eligibility of individual resources within the landscape and village.
2. We further concur that the Civilian Conservation Corps played a significant role in the history of the park's development and that structures and landscape features relating to their activities should be considered as contributing elements to the park's eligibility.
3. We agree with the NPS that the period of conservation should be extended to include the 1893 commemorative iron tablets.
4. We concur that under architecture, previously unlisted landscape elements such as historic roadbeds and fence lines should be considered contributing to the significance of the park.
5. We concur that the period of significance should be reviewed and expanded and that further research is needed in order to determine the extent of that period.
6. We agree that the park should further research the potential significance of its agricultural context.

While the DHR generally concurs with the NPS findings, we would also like to offer the following technical comments:

1. Further historical analysis is needed. This analysis should a) provide a regional context through investigation of how the development of Appomattox Courthouse fits in to the development of the region as a whole and b) analyze how the 1865 battle played out across the Courthouse landscape. A metal detector survey may be helpful in establishing the location of the battle (if one is not already planned as part of the archaeological assessment currently underway).

Program Services Div.
10 Courthouse Ave.
Petersburg, VA 23803
Tel: (804) 863-1585
Fax: (804) 862-6196

Petersburg Office
19-B Bollingbrook Street
Petersburg, VA 23803
Tel: (804) 863-1620
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Portsmouth Office
612 Court St., 3rd Fl.
Portsmouth, VA 23704
Tel: (757) 396-6787
Fax: (757) 396-6712

Roanoke Office
1030 Penmar Ave., SE
Roanoke, VA 24013
Tel: (540) 857-7585
Fax: (540) 857-7588

Winchester Office
107 N. Kent St., #203
Winchester, VA 22601
Tel: (540) 722-3427
Fax: (540) 722-7535

SHPO concurrence letter, May 24, 2001 (2 pages).

2. We recommend that you develop a treatment plan for the park if you have not already done so. This plan should specifically address a) plans for stabilization of threatened resources and b) outline how further research will help to answer outstanding questions with regard to the significance of resources such as those related to the CCC and the historic use of buildings and structures within the park. We recognize that such a plan requires funding and that such funding may not be available at this time.

Thank you again for the opportunity to review the referenced project. I would like to reiterate that the DHR generally concurs with the NPS findings and found the inventory to be both comprehensive and enlightening. We look forward to receiving a copy of the archaeological assessment once it is complete. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at (804) 367-2323 ext. 140 or richards@dhr.state.va.us.

Sincerely,



Lily A. Richards
Archaeologist and Historian
Division of Resource Services and Review

**Cultural Landscapes Inventory
CLI Update Certification Form
2025**

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park
Appomattox Court House NHP Landscape
Appomattox Court House Village

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park concurs with the updates for the following CLIs, including:

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Fair – Appomattox Court House NHP Landscape
Good – Appomattox Court House Village

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements, will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The CLI Updates at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park are hereby approved and accepted.

JAMES BAILEY Digitally signed by JAMES BAILEY
Date: 2025.07.15 15:08:46 -0400

Superintendent, Appomattox Court House National Historical Park

07/15/25

Date

Park concurrence form, July 15, 2025.

Revision:

Revised By	Type of Revision	Revision Date	Revision Narrative
Jeff Killion	Change in Condition	08/28/2013	Condition reassessment completed as scheduled.
Jeff Killion		08/08/2007	Condition Reassessment
Jeff Killion	CLI Update	07/15/2025	Three levels of effort have been developed for CLI Updates: A, B, and C. Level C is limited to a condition reassessment of the landscape; Level B includes C and is a targeted update of select data fields; Level A includes C and is a comprehensive update of all data fields. This 2025 update to the Appomattox Court House Village CLI has been conducted at a Level C effort. See Landscape Documents in CRIS-CL for correspondences with park.

Geographic Information

State and County:

State

Virginia

County

Appomattox County

Size (Acres): 90

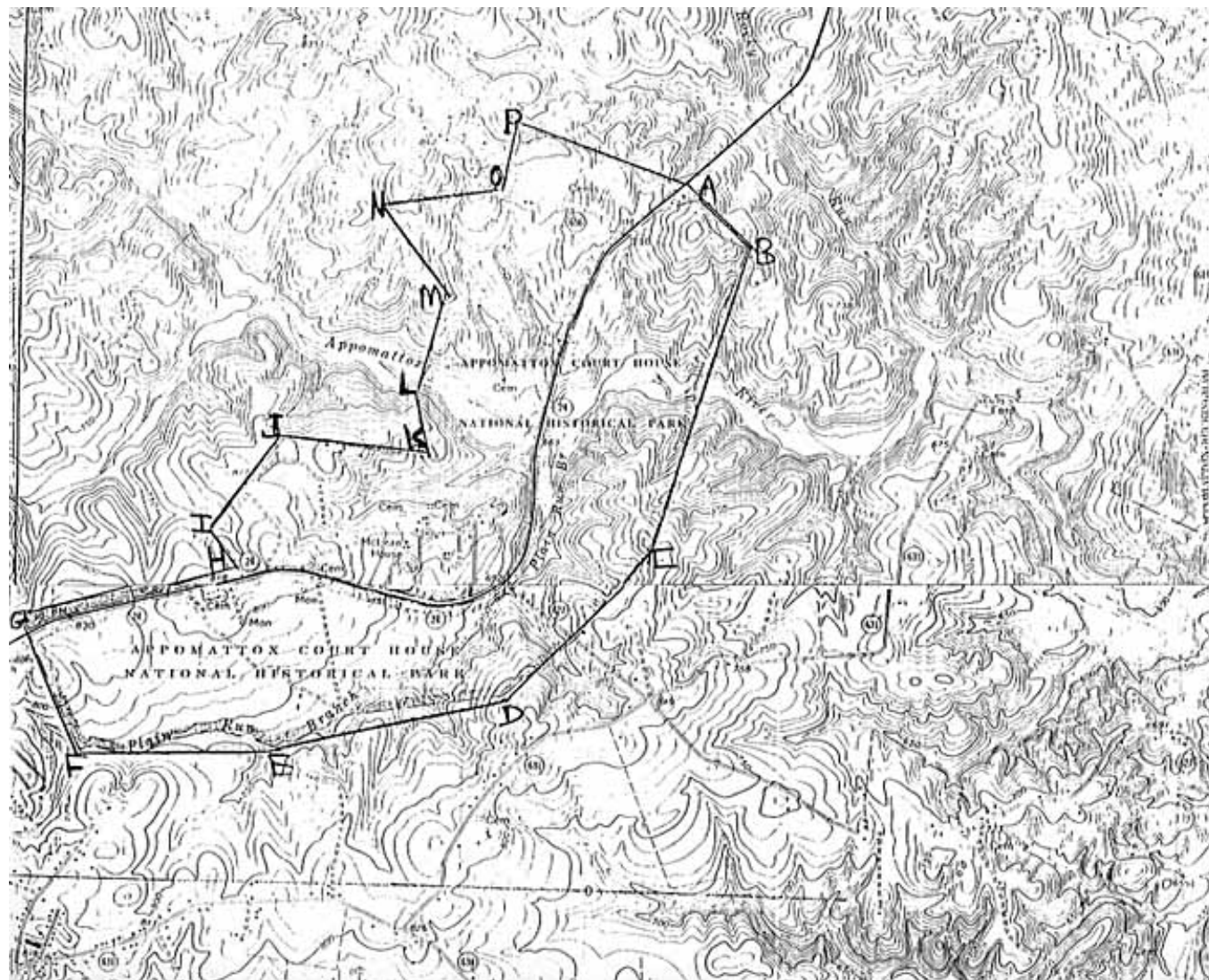
Land Tract Number(s)

01-101, 01-102, 01-105 to 01-109, 01-113, 01-122

Boundary Description:

Appomattox Court House Village includes lots 01-101, 01-102, 01-105 to 01-109, 01-113, and 01-122. The village runs along either side of three roads that together form a triangle: Back Lane, Richmond-Lynchburg Road, and Prince Edward Court House Road.

Location Map:



USGS map of Appomattox Court House NHP

Regional Landscape Contexts:

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

Appomattox Court House NHP is a village preserved or reconstructed with much the same appearance it would have had in the late 1860s. It represents a small, rural courthouse town of the day. The homes, tavern, and other buildings are connected by a network of roads, with the main street encircling the county courthouse. Nearby railroad lines allowed for troop and supply movement during the Civil War. Around this settlement, the agricultural landscape of 19th century Virginia is represented through pastures and fields. Preservation of this village and landscape is part of the larger commemorative efforts of the Civil War that took place throughout Virginia in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

Appomattox Court House NHP is located in the rolling Piedmont foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. The village of Appomattox Court House is built on the crest of a ridge (elevation 770') formed by the Appomattox River and the Plain Run Branch. (Montgomery, Engle, and Tobias 1989, 6:1)

Type of Context: Political

Description:

Appomattox Court House NHP is located in south central Virginia, 92 miles west of Richmond and 18 miles east of Lynchburg. It is located in Appomattox County, three miles northeast of the town of Appomattox. (Park brochure 1997) VA Route 24 runs from Appomattox through the length of the park.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 12/14/2000

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

Management Agreements:

Type of Agreement: Lease

Management Agreement Expiration Date: 12/31/2010

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

APCO has 5 year historical leasing program of approx. 480 acres for cattle grazing, hay, + small grain production; currently no small grain raised due to cost. New agreement will range from small grain to hay, + amount of pastureland will also change.

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative:

Type of Interest: None - Privately Owned

Narrative: There are four privately owned inholdings: 01-149 and 01-152 John Matthews, 01-151 Roy Moon, 01-153 Claudine O'Brien.

Type of Interest: None ☐ State Government Owned

Narrative: Within the park there are 1 primary and 2 secondary roads owned by Virginia, each with an easement. These are State Route 24 (55ft easement from center of highway), Route 656 (25ft easement), and Route 627 (75ft easement at Rt. 24 for .05miles, and 15ft easement for remainder).

Located in managed wilderness?: Unknown

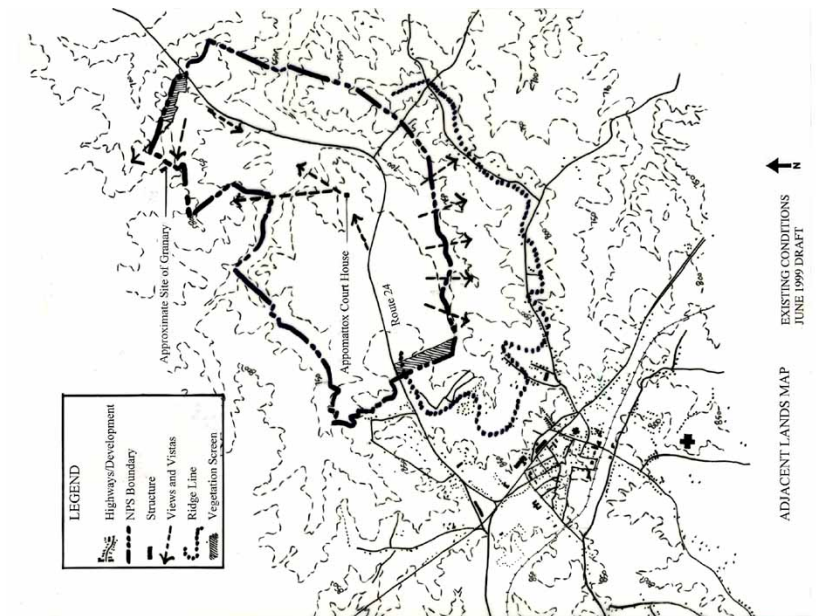
Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Narrative:

Adjacent lands contribute to the feeling of historical authenticity. From many points in the village the visitor is treated to far-reaching rural agricultural vistas, with no visible encroaching development. Most of the land visible from the village is protected as part of the park. Some long views to the northeast might be compromised if land adjacent to the park boundary is developed; however, at this point there are no major through roads in that area.

Adjacent Lands Graphic:



National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status: Entered Inadequately Documented

Documentation Narrative Description:

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park was listed on the National Register in 1966 without documentation. Additional documentation of the site, completed on 6/28/1989, was used below. Future revisions of the nomination should include additional landscape information recorded in the CLI process, and consider expanding the period of significance to include early efforts of commemoration.

Eligibility: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Concurrence Eligibility Date: 05/24/2001

Concurrence Narrative:

Significance Level: National

Contributing: Individual

Classification: District

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

The landscape at Appomattox Court House is nationally significant based on criterion A. It was the site of final battle and of General Robert E. Lee's surrender of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia to Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant, General-in-Chief of the Armies of the United States. Here the armies of the north and south camped while the details of the surrender were arranged, and here the beginning of peace and reunification of the nation took place. The site is also significant under criterion B for its association with the lives of Lee, Grant, who later became President of the United States, and their major subordinate commanders. Appomattox Court House is also significant under criterion C, a property that embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, and by representing a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. (Montgomery, Engle, and Tobias 1989, 8:1-5)

Because of the events of the Civil War that took place here, Appomattox Court House has military significance. Sites where events of the surrender took place such as Lee's and Grant's Headquarters remain, along with the broader characteristics of the landscape. These include the natural systems and features, circulation system, and views. Few detailed elements of the battle and temporary encampment sites remain, but numerous archeological sites are found here.

"Conservation" is noted as an area of significance for the rehabilitation of the village that took place during this century, including reconstruction of 14 structures. NPS mounted a model collaborative research effort in 1940 that included archeology, architecture and history, which led to the reconstruction of the McLean House. A total of 14 buildings were reconstructed from 1949-1968. At least two structures, the Plunkett-Meeks Store Storage Building and the Woodson Law Office, were relocated within the property. In addition there are 9 historic cemetery sites that derive significance from their association with events represented by the park. (Montgomery, Engle, and Tobias 1989, 8:1,3-5) The site also has a long history of commemoration. While the National Register of Historic Places nomination notes the period of significance as 1935-1940, CLI research has revealed that the earliest manifestation of commemoration in the landscape was the siting of iron tablets in 1893, followed by the erection of the North Carolina Monument and markers in 1905. The efforts culminated in the creation of the park. Because of the evidence of earlier commemoration found at Appomattox, and the longer period of interdisciplinary study and reconstruction of buildings, the CLI recommends revisiting the years of this period of significance.

Listed for the area of significance "Architecture," the village is considered a museum because of the variety of its late 18th and early 19th century structures and sites. They represent the small southern courthouse town of the day. Landscape elements that contribute to the setting are historic roads, fencelines, hedgerows, and views. The current National Register documentation notes the period of significance as 1930. (Montgomery, Engle, and Tobias 1989, 7:3-5, 8:1) The park may want to reexamine this year to broaden the period of significance to include both the original period of construction and the entire period of NPS reconstruction.

The site was impacted by the presence of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the 1940s. Under the guidance of the National Park Service, the CCC implemented early park development, including landscape clearing. Therefore it is likely that the contexts of conservation and politics/government (New Deal initiatives) are applicable. More research is needed to clarify the significance of the CCC, especially given similar efforts at parks throughout Virginia.

Finally, it is possible that given the array of cabins, outbuildings, fields, mill site, and cemeteries, that the landscape is significant at the state or local level for its agricultural context. Again, more research is needed into this area.

National Register Significance Criteria:

- A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
- B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past
- C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

National Register Criteria Consideration:

B -- A building or structure removed from its original location

D -- A cemetery

E -- A reconstructed building, object, or structure

F -- A commemorative property

National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes):

Time Period: CE 1865 - CE 1865

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Shaping the Political Landscape	The Civil War	Conquest And Emancipation	

Time Period: CE 1930 - CE 1930

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Period Revivals (1870-1940)	

Time Period: CE 1935 - CE 1940

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Military

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Conservation

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

NRIS Information:

NRIS Name:	Appomattox Court House National Historical Park
NRIS ID:	66000827
Primary Certification Date:	10/15/1966

State Register Documentation:

National Historic Landmarks:

National Historic Landmark? No

Theme:

Contributing:

NHL ID:

NHL URL:

Date:

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:

World Heritage Site:

World Heritage Site? No

Category:

WHS ID:

WHS URL:

Date:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

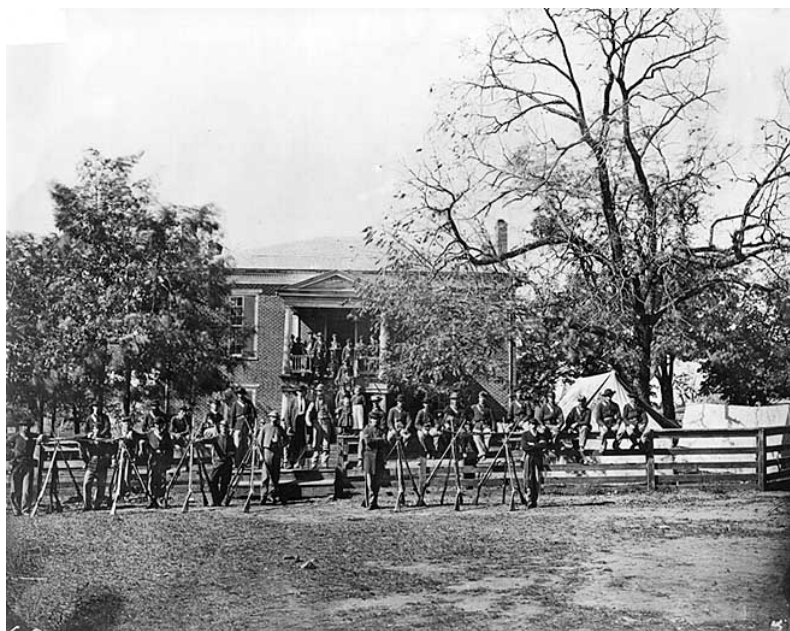
Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1809	Established	Lynchburg Stage Road established. (Wilson 1999, interview)
CE 1819 - 1823	Built	Early development included the Clover Hill Tavern, 1819, which became an important stop in the Richmond-Lynchburg stage line, and the Mariah Wright House, built c. 1823. (Statement for Management 1995, 13). Village known as Clover Hill.
CE 1845	Established	Virginia General Assembly established Appomattox County from parts of Prince Edward, Charlotte, Buckingham, and Campbell counties. (Moore ND, 2)
CE 1846 - 1856	Built	Village grew. Courthouse, Old Jail built (1846); McLean House, County Well, Bocock-Isbell House (1848); Plunkett-Meeks Store (1850); Wright-Diuguid Blacksmith Shop (1854); Jones Law Office (c. 1855); Peers House (1856); etc. (Statemt. for Mgmt. 1995, 13)
CE 1854	Built	South Side Railroad started service through Appomattox Station, bypassing Appomattox Court House. (Wilson 1999, interview)
CE 1865	Altered	April 9, 1865, Wilmer McLean house became site of Lee's surrender to Grant.
CE 1865	Altered	From May through November, Federal soldiers camped at courthouse square. (O'Sullivan 1865, photo file 69)
CE 1870	Built	New Jail built circa 1870. (Statement for Management 1995, 13)
CE 1892	Destroyed	After Courthouse destroyed in a fire, county seat moved to Appomattox Station. Village no longer altered by growth. (Gurney 1955, 4)
CE 1893	Memorialized	Iron tablets erected by War Department to commemorate sites associated with the surrender at Appomattox.
CE 1893	Removed	McLean House dismantled to be reassembled in Washington D.C., but plans failed and disassembled house remained on piles near its original site.
CE 1905 - 1926	Neglected	Village went into decline, some homes abandoned, McLean House and courthouse sites became overgrown: "a period of quiet respectful decay." (Haskett 1962, Vol III A3)
CE 1926	Land Transfer	War Department authorized to purchase one acre of land at the courthouse site to erect a monument, which was never built.
CE 1926	Memorialized	United Daughters of the Confederacy erected a marker at the Courthouse.
CE 1926 - 1940	Memorialized	Efforts continued to create a park at Appomattox Court House, culminating with the creation of the Appomattox Court House National Historical Monument on April 10, 1940.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1933	Land Transfer	On August 10, 1933 park transferred from the War Department to the National Park Service in the Department of Interior.
CE 1935	Memorialized	On August 13, 1935, Appomattox Court House is designated National Historical Monument.
CE 1940 - 1941	Altered	Black Civilian Conservation Corps company assigned to begin work such as stabilization of structures, vegetation clearing, and removal of selected outbuildings in village.
CE 1940 - 1941	Excavated	Archeological excavation of McLean House site prior to reconstruction.
CE 1941 - 1954	Built	New Route 24 built to bypass village (construction paused in mid-1940s due to World War II).
CE 1942	Neglected	U.S. entry into WWII temporarily ended major efforts in park.
CE 1948 - 1983	Restored	Restoration efforts in village: Bocock-Isbell House (1948-49); Clover Hill Tavern, Peers House (1954); Plunkett-Meeks Store/Store House (1959,1983); Woodson Law Office (1959, 1985); New Jail (1963-65); Mariah Wright House (1964-65). (Park web site 2000)
CE 1949 - 1968	Reconstructed	Period of NPS reconstruction: McLean House, Well, Meeks Stable reconstructed (1949); Jones Well House (1963); Courthouse, McLean outbuildings (1964); County Well (1965); Privies at McLean House, Tavern, Meeks Store (1968). (Stmt. for Managemt. 1995, 13)
CE 1950	Memorialized	Dedication of McLean House drew a crowd of 20,000 on April 16, 1950. (Fawcett 1950, photo file 1461; Haskett 1962, Vol III A 7)
CE 1954	Built	Maintenance Service Repair Shop and Storage Cover Shed constructed. ("Status of File for Each Building in Park")
CE 1954	Memorialized	Designation changed from Appomattox Court House National Historical Monument to Appomattox Court House National Historical Park on April 15,1954. (Statement for Management 1995, 22)
CE 1956	Altered	Vehicular traffic prohibited in center of village; pedestrian use only.
CE 1960	Excavated	Archeological excavation of courthouse site prior to reconstruction. (APCO 1960, photo file 995 and 147/2221)
CE 1963	Memorialized	The marker placed at the Courthouse by the United Daughters of the Confederacy moved to the Confederate Cemetery.
CE 1964	Established	Watkins M. Abbott won approval for Congressional funding for reconstruction of Courthouse.
CE 1965	Memorialized	Reconstructed Courthouse dedicated at ceremony in April, 1965. (VA State Police aerial photo 1965, file 1478A)
CE 1981	Built	New access road to maintenance yard constructed.

Physical History:

1. Prehistory – 1865: Settlement and Early Development

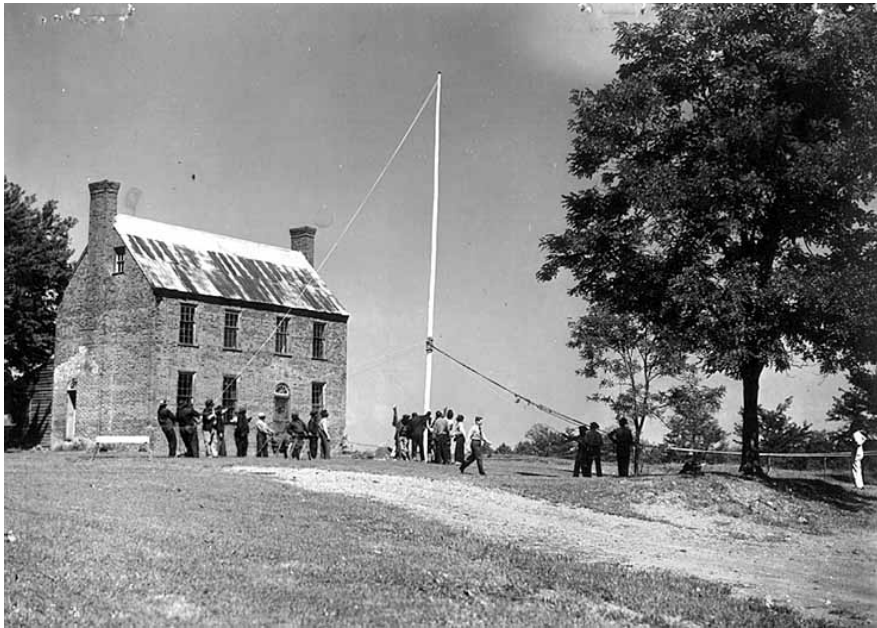
1. Little is known about Native American use of this area. The Sweeney Prizery was built in the late 18th century, so some settlement of the area had taken place by then and the land was being used for agriculture. In 1809 the Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road was established, (Wilson 1999, interview) and in 1819 Alexander Patteson opened the Clover Hill Tavern as a stop on that route. When, in 1845, Appomattox County was formed from pieces of four existing counties, the tavern was used for official business until the courthouse was constructed in 1846. The town, which had been known as Clover Hill, was renamed Appomattox Court House after the courthouse was in use. (General Management Plan 1977, 18) It became the busy hub of county business on court days (for early history see Lucchetti, Leigh and McCartney 1992, 4-9). Appomattox Court House village is unusual in that its appearance during this climax period has been preserved due to lack of additional growth after it was bypassed by the railroad in the 1850s.



Soldiers at Court House in August of 1865. (O'Sullivan 1865, file 69)



Court House after 1892 fire as photographed by Plecker. (Plecker: from Museum of the Confederacy 1892, file 74)



Civilian Conservation Corps raised flagpole in front of tavern, then used as visitor center. (APCO 1940, file 114/1054)



Dedication of reconstructed McLean House. (Fawcett 1950, file 1461)

2. April - November 1865: Civil War at Appomattox

The Civil War came to Appomattox County in April, 1865, at the end of Confederate General Robert E. Lee's retreat across Southside Virginia. On April 8, Lee's rearguard led by Lieutenant General James Longstreet built the New Hope earthworks four miles northeast of Appomattox Court House, where most of Lee's army was positioned. That evening, Union troops captured Confederate supply trains at Appomattox Station, parts of a wagon train and 25 Confederate cannons ("Lee's Retreat" brochure 1997). On April 9, 1865, there was some last fighting before Lee's surrender to Union Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant. Choosing a neutral site, they met at the home of Wilmer McLean in Appomattox Court House to agree upon the terms of surrender for the Army of Northern Virginia. Thousands of soldiers camped in the surrounding farms and woods, and by April 13 Confederate troops had surrendered their weapons and were released to return to their homes. Other Confederate commanders followed Lee's lead in surrendering, thus ending the Civil War. The village remained occupied by Union soldiers until November, 1865, when they left the area. (General Management Plan 1977, 18)

3. 1865-1940: Period of Decline and Early Commemorative Efforts

After the Civil War, Appomattox Court House continued as the county seat. Then in 1892 the courthouse burned and the county seat moved to Appomattox Station, now called Appomattox, on the railroad approximately 2 miles to the west. Appomattox Court House began a period of deterioration, with houses rented or abandoned and outbuildings allowed to collapse or used for firewood. (Gurney 1955, 4,9)

The move to commemorate the site began by the late 1880s. Land was being acquired and a private commemorative park planned by the Appomattox Land Company, under the leadership of General S. S. Burdette. The company hoped to establish a campground for reunions, put up a monument, sell lots and build a hotel. But in 1891 the centerpiece of this plan, the McLean House, was sold to another group of investors called the Appomattox Land and Improvement Company to put on display at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago. In 1893 the McLean House was dismantled, to be reassembled as a Civil War Museum in Washington D.C. This plan failed too, and the house materials rotted on piles near the original house site.

Despite the loss of the McLean House and county seat, Burdette continued to work for Congressional recognition of Appomattox, and in 1893 ten commemorative iron tablets were erected. He continued to work for the creation of a park, but with little support in the south, the plan languished. In 1905, the North Carolina legislature erected the North Carolina Monument to commemorate the state's role in the last battle at Appomattox on April 9, 1865, as well as other contributions to the war effort. Again little happened until the 1920s when local residents tried to secure Congressional approval to establish a park. (Gurney 1955, 2-10) In 1926, Congress authorized an inspection of the battlefields and surrender grounds, and in 1930 the War Department was authorized to acquire one acre of land and erect a monument on the site where the courthouse once stood. In 1932, the War Department announced a national competition for design of a monument. Although the winning design was never approved, \$100,000 was appropriated for its construction. (Park comments on draft Level II 2000)

4. 1933-Present: NPS Era

On August 10, 1933, the site was transferred from the War Department to the Department of the Interior. (Statement for Management 1995, 6) Interest in restoring the village seems to have started with NPS acquisition of the site. It was originally placed under the superintendent of Colonial National Monument, B. Floyd Flickinger. He and others became interested in restoration and reconstruction at Appomattox, probably influenced by the Williamsburg work, and that idea gained support over the plan for a monument. (Gurney 1955, 14) A 1939 Congressional act authorized acquisition of land as necessary within 1½ miles of the courthouse to create a national historical monument. In 1939 an executive order allowed the transfer of approximately 964 acres from the Department of Agriculture. (Statement for Management 1995, 6, 21-22) This land had been acquired under a public works project to remove submarginal lands from agricultural production, thus ensuring better farm prices for products from the remaining farmland. (Gurney 1955, 19) Local efforts were made in the 1930s to preserve a tree under which, according to local folklore, Lee delivered his last address to his troops. (Wilson 1999, interview)

On April 10, 1940, the park was created by the Secretary of the Interior as Appomattox Court House National Historical Monument. That designation was changed to Appomattox Court House National Historical Park on April 15, 1954. (Statement for Management 1995, 6, 21-22)

Work in the park began in 1940 when a black Civilian Conservation Corps company was assigned to Camp 28 there. (Paige 1985, 203) The company began to stabilize structures and clear the grounds. Plans for reconstruction of the McLean House and construction of a bypass to take State Route 24 out of the village were put on hold with the United States' entrance into World War II. (Gurney 1955, 22-24) After the war, initial efforts in the park focused on the restoration and repair of the 13 existing buildings. From 1949 to 1968 NPS reconstructed 14 buildings, including the McLean house and outbuildings. (Statement for Management 1995, 4, 13) With the reconstruction of the Courthouse and addition of its parking lot in 1964, visitor center activities that had taken place at the Clover Hill Tavern were moved to the new facility. (Wilson 1999, interview) It wasn't until 1954 that the bypass for Route 24 was completed. (Gurney 1955, 26) Several historic village structures have been used for NPS administrative offices, including the Ferguson house (no longer standing) and the Peers house. Offices are currently located in the Bocock-Isbell house, and the Peers house is used for park housing. Park maintenance facilities were added to the village in the 1950s, with a paved access road constructed in 1981.

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Commerce/Trade	Professional	Professional	Yes	No	No
Commerce/Trade	Specialty Store (Shop)	Specialty Store (Shop)	Yes	No	No
Domestic (Residential)	Hotel (Boarding House)	Lodge (Inn, Cabin)	Yes	No	No
Domestic (Residential)	Single Family Dwelling	Single Family House	Yes	Yes	No
Funerary	Cemetery	Cemetery	Yes	No	Yes
Government	Correctional Facility (Jail)	Correctional Facility (Jail)	Yes	No	No
Government	Courthouse	Courthouse	Yes	No	No
Landscape	Leisure-Passive (Park)	Leisure-Passive (Park)	No	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Yes	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Museum (Exhibition Hall)	Historic Furnished Interior	No	Yes	Yes
Transportation	Road-Related	Road-Related-Other	Yes	No	No

Public Access:

Public Access: Other Restrictions

Public Access Narrative:

Associated Ethnographic Group

Ethnographic Study Status: No Survey Conducted

Ethnographic Narrative:

CLI research has found little information about the Native American use of this site. Slave cabins associated with the McLean House and Clover Hill Tavern are evidence of the role of African-American slaves in the economic and social structures of the area. Several free black artisans and shopkeepers, such as blacksmith Charles Diuguid had shops and lived in the village. (Marvel 1997, 115) Slaves, and later servants, lived in quarters behind the Clover Hill Tavern and McLean house. Slaves and free blacks together comprised more than half the population of Appomattox County in the antebellum era. (Moore ND, 11)

Another period of ethnographic interest is 1940-1941, when a black Civilian Conservation Corps company from Yorktown, Virginia, was stationed at Appomattox Court House. (Haskett 1962) These men worked under supervision of NPS to begin the large-scale efforts of restoration and cleanup. Among the projects they undertook were clearing of vegetation and removal of some outbuildings in the village core. Little is known about the CCC group's daily life.

More research into the ethnographic history of the village and surrounding landscape, particularly in the 19th century and before, is needed.

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The village at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park presents a 19th-century vernacular village. While the village has been preserved to commemorate the events of the surrender, other layers of history are revealed by the landscape and buildings. The vernacular architecture and the arrangement of structures and spaces are typical of the rural courthouse towns that were common in 19th century Virginia. Over the years, Appomattox Court House remained essentially intact while other villages of its type were developed beyond recognition.

The village at Appomattox Court House has changed since 1865: much that appears historic actually dates from the restorations and reconstructions of this century. Most buildings, vegetation, and small-scale features no longer have integrity to the period of 1865, but many do to the period of conservation and commemoration (see Statement of Significance for details). They also illustrate the materials and workmanship of the period. Picket, rail, and board fences rebuilt along historic fencelines throughout the village lend authenticity to the vernacular architecture. Historical markers from the turn of the century reveal the era of commemoration, when, after slipping into obscurity for decades, the town's Civil War significance was once again recognized. The village structures, circulation, vegetation, views, and small-scale features such as fences all support the historic setting and feeling of a 19th-century village setting.

Any features listed in this report without the designation of contributing or non-contributing should be assumed to be possibly contributing. Until further research is conducted into the significance of the Civilian Conservation Corps in the park, features related to the CCC are noted as possibly contributing.

Landscape Characteristic: Archeological Sites

This section identifies archeological resources that are part of the cultural landscape such as ruins, traces, or artifacts evidenced by the presence of surface and subsurface features. Those features listed below as contributing have been designated as such under Criteria A, B, or C in the current National Register of Historic Places documentation. These resources have not been evaluated under Criterion D and must be considered potentially contributing under Criterion D at this time. The list below contains resources identified in previous archeological research, the existing National Register nomination, and cultural landscape field investigations. This list will be updated upon completion of the Archeological Overview and Assessment currently underway.

Current conditions

While sites of former structures are marked with small signs, the results of any archeological work are not visible at this time except for structures like the Courthouse and McLean house, which have been rebuilt based on archeological investigation and the plans made when the McLean house was dismantled.

Various sites where buildings once stood along the Stage Road present further evidence of a bustling community. Sites of the Robinson-Glover store, the Rosser house, shop, and blacksmith shop, the Wright-Diuguid blacksmith shop, the Willis Inge cabin, Robertson-Hix Shop, Nowlin Sears blacksmith shop, and Union Academy and dwelling site are marked only by small signs. The Old County Jail is one of the few with visible remains: four brick foundation corners mark the site. There are other unmarked sites in the village where buildings once stood, such as the Pryor-Wright house, the Raine Tavern, Moffitt-Layne house, Bessie Ferguson house, and various outbuildings.

Historic conditions

The histories of the former buildings described above are not well known. While many were extant in 1865, some were demolished in the 19th century, others were abandoned and became dilapidated over time, and still others were removed as part of the early restoration effort.

The Bessie Ferguson house, a building extant on the courthouse square from the post Civil War period, was used as temporary park headquarters in the early 1940s. It was razed after that time and no sign of it currently exists.

A number of archeological projects have been undertaken at Appomattox, but they were primarily to support reconstruction of buildings in the village. Archaeological investigations for the McLean house were carried out in 1941; the Courthouse site was excavated in 1960. There has also been archeological work to establish the location of the Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road. The site of "worm" fencing near road triangle at the Peers house was also discovered through archeology. (Walker 1963, 3-23)

Summary

A systematic archeological survey of the park was funded for FY 2000, and should provide more comprehensive information.

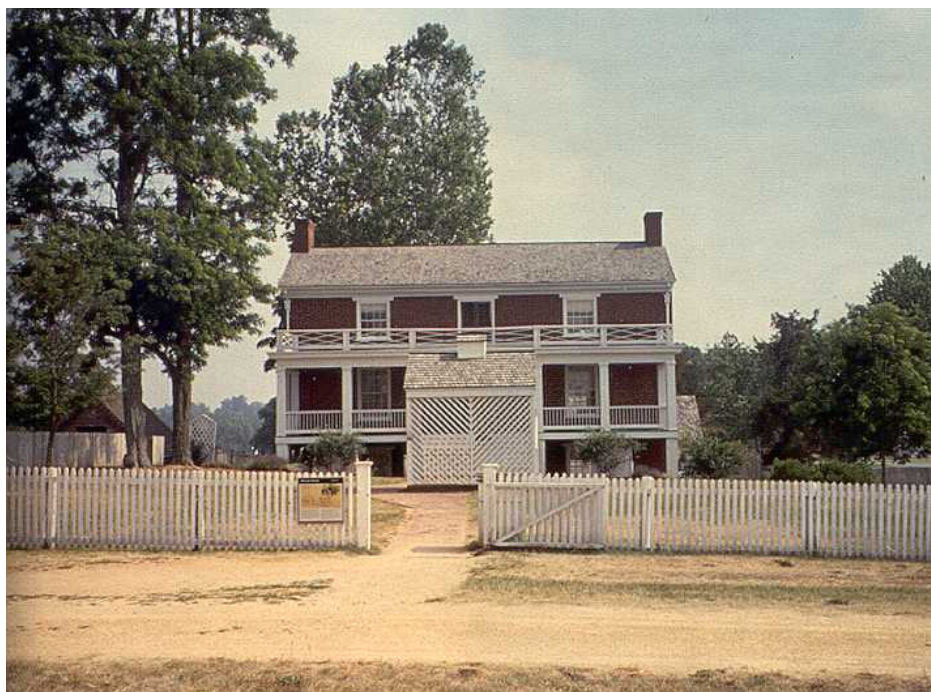
Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Clover Hill Tavern bar site	99615	Contributing					No
Clover Hill Tavern dining room site	99616	Contributing					No
Clover Hill Tavern icehouse site	99617	Contributing					No
Clover Hill Tavern smokehouse site	99618	Contributing					No
McLean house smokehouse site	99619	Contributing					No
McLean house stable	99620	Contributing					No
Moffitt-Layne house site	99621	Contributing					No
Nowlin Sears blacksmith shop site	99622	Contributing					No
Old County Jail site	99623	Contributing					No
Old Raine Tavern site	99624	Contributing					No
Peers house outbuilding sites	99625	Contributing					No
Plunkett-Meeks store outbuilding site	99626	Contributing					No
Pryor-Wright house site	99627	Contributing					No
Robertson-Hix shop site	99628	Contributing					No
Robinson-Glover store site	99629	Contributing					No
Rosser house, shop and blacksmith shop site	99630	Contributing					No
Union Academy dwelling site	99631	Contributing					No
Union Academy site	99632	Contributing					No
Willis Inge cabin site	99633	Contributing					No
Wright-Diuguid blacksmith shop site	99634	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Archeological excavations at Courthouse site in 1960. (APCO 1960, file 995)



Front of the reconstructed McLean House. (PHSO 1999)



Reconstructed Courthouse functions as the Visitor Center. (PHSO 1999)



Clover Hill Tavern from the southeast in 1913, with bar wing on right that is no longer extant. (HABS c. 1913, file 54)



Bocock-Isbell House. (PHSO 1999)



View to the southeast of Mariah Wright Cabin and worm fence. (PHSO 1999)



Meeks Stable photographed from the southeast circa 1939-1940. (APCO n.d. file 196)



View of Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road looking East from the Courthouse. (PHSO 1999)



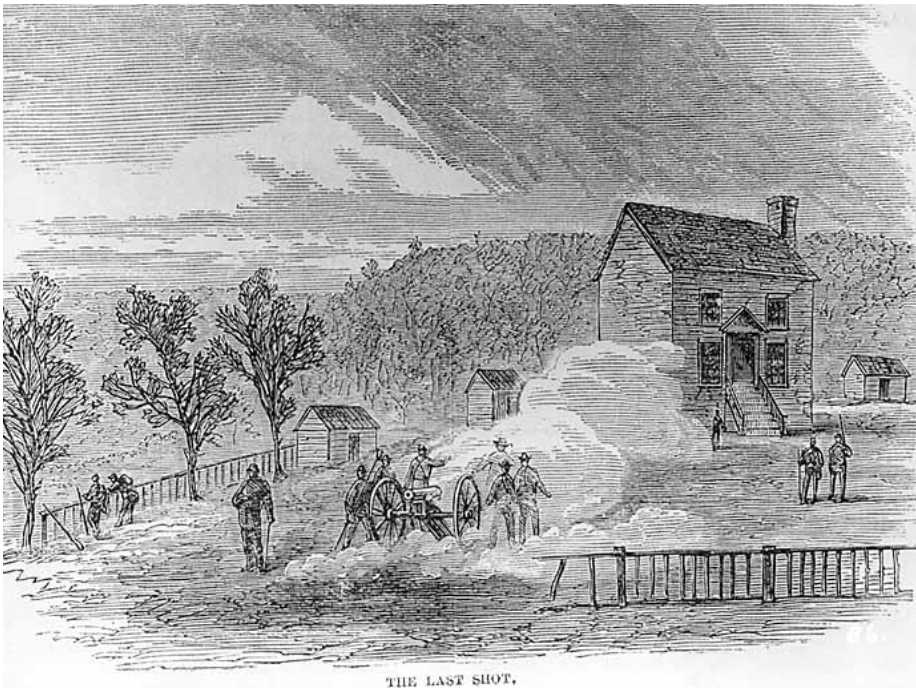
View of Back Lane to southeast. (PHSO 1999)



Stage Road near Jones Law Office in 1915. (Cheney Report 1915, file 5)



Patteson-Hix Cemetery behind Clover Hill Tavern Kitchen. (PHSO 1999)



Sketch entitled "The Last Shot" showing the Peers House in the background. (New York Herald 1865, file 83)



Example of worm fence, looking northeast from Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road. (PHSO 1999)



Example of three-step stile. (PHSO 1999)



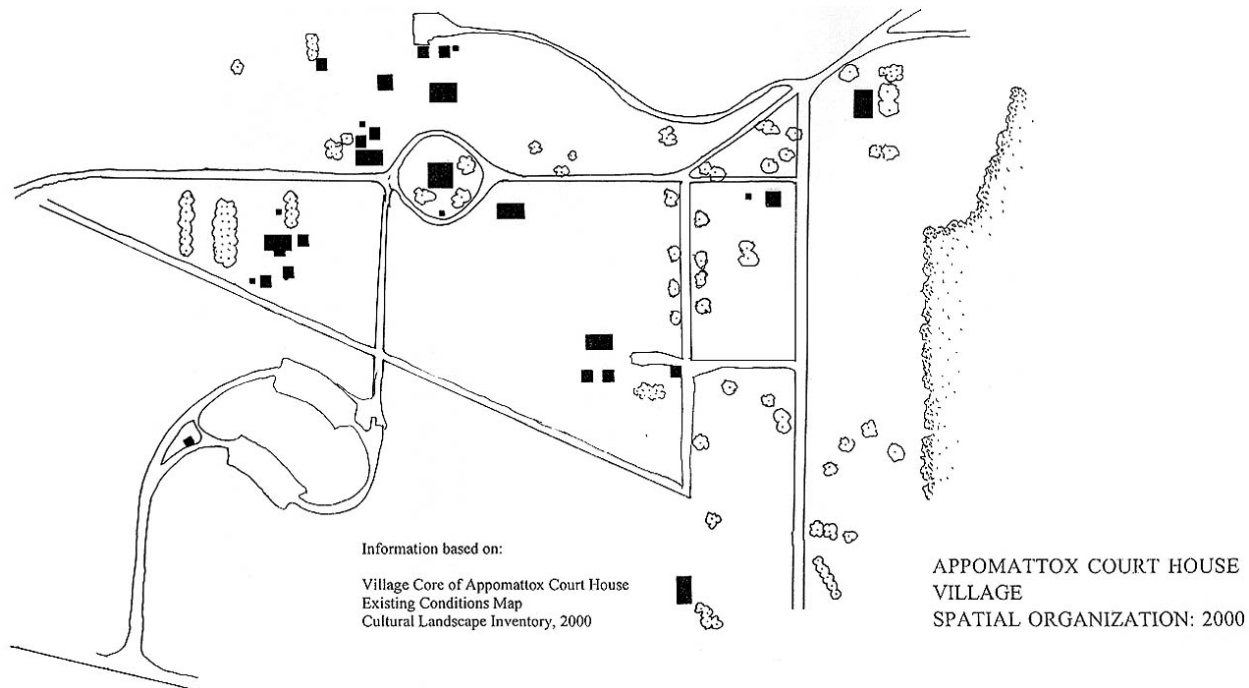
Marker for McLean House on overgrown site in 1936. (APCO 1936, file 2007)



Unusual fieldstone and clay pipe culvert east of Jones Law Office. (PHSO 1999)

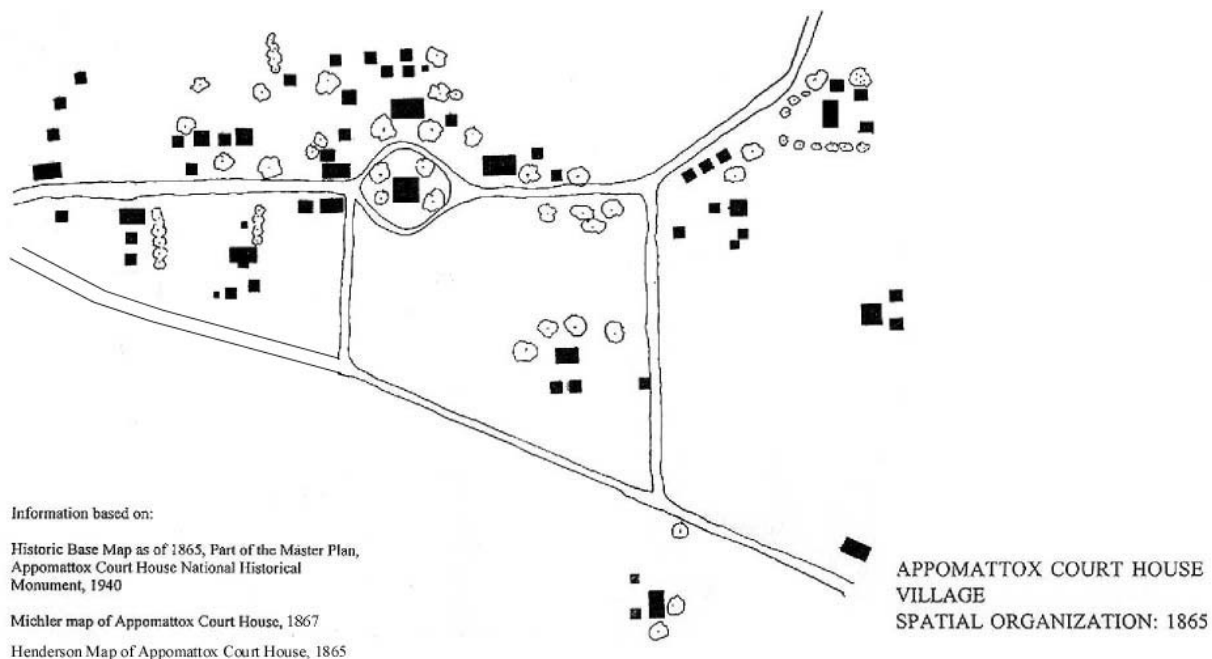


Examples of benches and trash cans in the village. (PHSO 1999)



Spatial organization of village in 2000. (PHSO 2000)

Appomattox Court House Village
Appomattox Court House National Historical Park



Spatial organization of village in 1865. (PHSO 2000)



Aerial overview of Appomattox Court House in 1937. (APCO 1937, file 241)



Aerial photograph taken in 1965 during dedication ceremony of reconstructed Courthouse. (VA State Police 1965, no file number/1478A)



Picturesque red cedar at Lafayette Meeks grave. (PHSO 1999)



Locust trees at the McLean House in 1865. (Waterman: from Library of Congress 1865, file 151)



Row of mature red cedars along old Prince Edward Court House Road trace. (PHSO 1999)



Non-historic ornamental plantings at Bocock-Isbell House. (PHSO 1999)



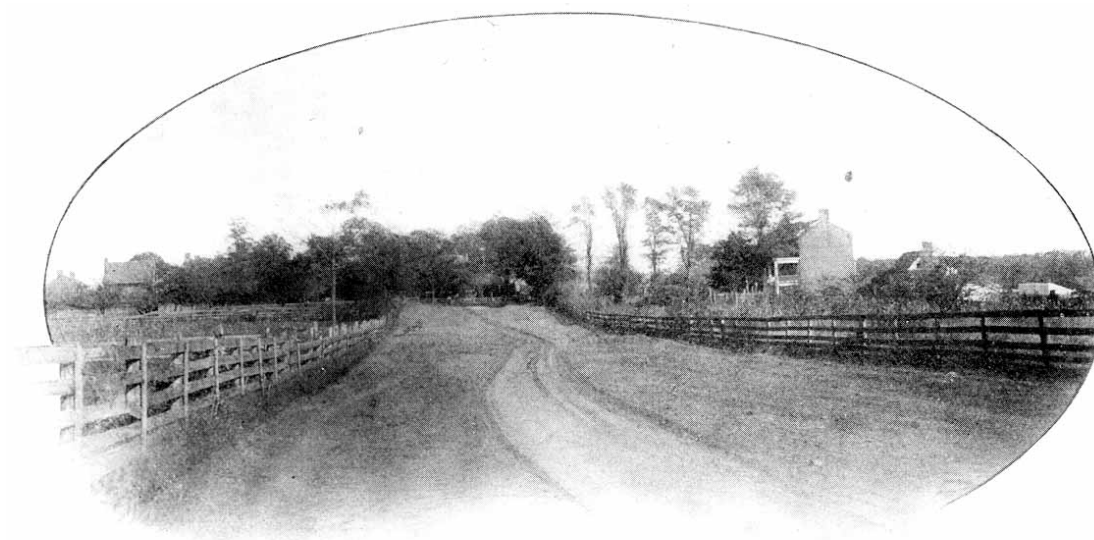
View east from Confederate Cemetery to the village. (PHSO 1999)



View from Courthouse stairs to the west. (PHSO 1999)



Panorama of village taken from Tibbs House in 1941. (Happel 1941, file 169/694 and 695)



THE ROAD LEADING TO APPOMATTOX COURT-HOUSE. THE MCLEAN HOUSE
ON THE RIGHT

McLean House and Courthouse photographed from the west in 1892. (APCO 1892, file 164)



Appomattox, Va. Ground on which Gen^l Lee and Gen^l Grant
first met.

*Site of Lee-Grant meeting on April 10, 1865, opposite Peers House looking west toward Clover Hill Tavern.
(APCO: from Museum of the Confederacy c. 1880s, file 48)*

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

Current Conditions

Houses, businesses and outbuildings in the village form a cohesive setting in which one can imagine life in the mid-19th century. Twenty-seven buildings and numerous marked sites of former buildings surround the Courthouse, center of activity in the last century and now. The two-story brick Courthouse, the largest structure in the village, now houses the Visitor Center. At the south edge of the yard is a well house, and nearby is the new County Jail.

The Clover Hill Tavern is a restored, 2-story brick building with a long covered porch. The Tavern was used as the visitor center before 1965 when the facility in the Courthouse was completed. The Tavern's ancillary structures that have been restored or rehabilitated include the kitchen, which now houses the park bookstore; the slave quarters, which are now restrooms; the guest house; and a privy.

West of the Courthouse along the Stage Road is the rebuilt McLean house, which is open to the public. Its existing outbuildings include a wooden ice house, a kitchen, slave quarters, and a well house. Two other rehabilitated homes in the village, the Bocock-Isbell and Peers houses, are not open to visitors. Both are of wood construction with brick foundations and chimneys. The Bocock-Isbell house has a smokehouse, kitchen and stable, all of wood post and beam construction. The house currently serves as park administrative offices, and the Peers house is used for park housing. These uses have a negative impact on historic structures.

There are several rehabilitated buildings that once housed businesses in the village, including Plunkett-Meeks Store, the Jones and Woodson Law Office, and the Clover Hill Tavern. (The Woodson Law Office may have been the old Saddler's Shop; research currently underway should clarify this.)

The Mariah Wright house on the edge of the village has the markedly more rural feel of a cabin homestead. "Worm" fences partially enclose the large yard, lending to its rustic character. No outbuildings exist today.

Various sites where buildings once stood along the Stage Road present further evidence of a bustling community; many are now marked by small signs and a few remains (See Archeological Sites).

Several structures have been added to the village since NPS took possession of the site. The Maintenance Service Repair Shop and Storage Cover Shed were constructed between 1954 and 1979, and a small Fee Collection Booth added to the visitor parking lot in 1995. ("Status of File for Each Building in Park")

Historic Conditions

The Courthouse was first constructed in 1846, burned in 1892, and was completely reconstructed as a visitor center in 1963-64. Just to the east of the Courthouse, the New County Jail, built in 1860-70 and restored in the 1950s, is an historic 3-story brick structure also associated with the county justice system. Across the road is the foundation of the Old County Jail, of which four reconstructed brick corners are now visible.

The Clover Hill Tavern was a stop for travelers between Richmond and Lynchburg long before the Courthouse was built. Constructed in 1819 and restored in the 1950s, the two-story brick building at one time had two wings housing a bar and a dining room, that no longer exist. Ancillary structures of brick and wood included a guest house, kitchen, slave/servant quarters, and privy, smokehouse and possibly other outbuildings.

The McLean house, originally built by John Raine in 1848, was "the most impressive home in the village" and the site of the historic meeting of Grant and Lee (Cullen 1980, 33). The three-story brick house with wood porches was dismantled in 1893, and completely reconstructed in 1948-1949. Outbuildings included an unusually ornamented wooden icehouse (which does not appear in

photographs until the 1880s), a kitchen and slave/servant quarters of log construction, a well house, and a privy. A smokehouse and stable also once existed.

The Bocock-Isbell house (1848) and Peers house (1856) are two-story wooden frame residences on the south and east edges of the village. The Plunkett-Meeks general store is a wooden building with a brick and fieldstone foundation, originally built in 1850 and restored in the 1950s. Ancillary structures include a storehouse, a stable, and a privy, all of wood. Two country lawyers' offices were housed in simple, one-room wooden structures, typical of the time. These include the Woodson Law Office (built in 1856 and restored in the 1950s) and the Jones Law Office, formerly known as Kelly house (built in 1855 and restored in the 1950s), which also has a well house.

On the periphery of the village is the Mariah Wright house, built in 1823 and restored in the 1960s. Constructed of unpainted wood with a stone foundation and chimneys, this gable-roofed house was one of the first built in the village. The house once had outbuildings.

Numerous other homes, businesses and outbuildings once existed in the village; many decayed over time or were removed in the restoration effort of the 1940s. For more information about structures that are no longer extant, please see the Archeology section.

Summary

While the main village structures are largely rebuilt or intact, some residences, buildings, and outbuildings present in 1865 are no longer in existence. This is the result of decay over time, much of which occurred before the creation of the park. Some outbuildings were removed as part of the restoration effort in the 1940s. There is also an adverse effect of historic village structures being used for park administrative offices and housing.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Bocock-Isbell House	99635	Contributing	7787		Location	26977	Yes
Bocock-Isbell Outside Kitchen	99636	Contributing	7789		Location	112025	Yes
Bocock-Isbell Smokehouse	99637	Contributing	7788		Location	26980	Yes
Bocock-Isbell Stable	99638	Contributing	37		Location	26978	Yes
Clover Hill Guest House	99639	Contributing	53		Location	26987	Yes
Clover Hill Kitchen	99640	Contributing	52		Location	26988	Yes
Clover Hill Privy	99641	Contributing	80300		Asset	42618	Yes
Clover Hill Slave Quarters	99642	Contributing	7783		Location	26989	Yes
Clover Hill Tavern	99643	Contributing	49		Location	26986	Yes
Courthouse	99644	Contributing	38		Location	26964	Yes
Courthouse Well House	99645	Contributing	7780		Location	26965	Yes
Fee Collection Booth	99646	Noncontributing					No
Jones Law Office (former Kelly House)	99647	Contributing	396		Location	26972	Yes
Jones Law Office Well House	99648	Contributing	40		Location	26973	Yes
Maintenance Service Repair Shop and Storage Cover Shed	99649	Noncontributing					No
Mariah Wright House	97719	Contributing	41		Location	26970	Yes
McLean House	97720	Contributing	50		Location	27004	Yes
McLean Ice House	91876	Contributing	42		Location	27009	Yes
McLean Kitchen	91918	Contributing	43		Location	27005	Yes
McLean Slave Quarters	91919	Contributing	44		Location	27006	Yes
McLean Well House	91920	Contributing	7781		Location	27008	Yes
New County Jail	91921	Contributing	36		Location	26961	Yes
Peers House	91922	Contributing	7790		Location	26968	Yes
Plunkett-Meeks Privy	91923	Contributing	7785		Asset	42617	Yes
Plunkett-Meeks Stable	91924	Contributing	17260		Location	26999	Yes
Plunkett-Meeks Storage Building	91925	Contributing	7784		Location	26998	Yes
Plunkett-Meeks Store	91926	Contributing	51		Location	26996	Yes
Woodson Law Office	91928	Contributing	7786		Location	26997	Yes

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

Current conditions

The former roadways in the center of the village are now restricted to pedestrian use, with crushed stone surfacing. There are brick walks (4' w) around many buildings. In and around the village are several access roads restricted to park use, including: an asphalt road to the maintenance yard from Route 24; a portion of the Prince Edward Court House Road which allows vehicular access to the staff parking lot behind the Bocock-Isbell house; and a dirt road beyond the fence north of the Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road which accesses the service entrance behind the bookstore. Circulation within the park is dominated by Route 24, which forms a high-speed highway corridor through the middle of the park. The road gives the visitor a false impression of the historic scene, because it did not exist at the time of the surrender and could not have been used for troop movements. Another impact of Route 24 is that passing trucks can be heard throughout the village. (See park landscape Cultural Landscape Inventory for details of roads and trails not listed as features here)

Within and extending out from the village are many historic road traces, of which the Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road (ca. 1809) is the most significant. It is currently for pedestrian and maintenance vehicle use only. The road bed is surfaced in grass except in the village center where it is crushed stone. Other significant road traces within the village which are currently in pedestrian or park-only use include Prince Edward Court House Road, Back Lane (grass), Market Lane, a.k.a. Pryor Wright Lane (crushed stone), and Bocock Lane (asphalt and crushed stone).

Parking at the village is accommodated primarily by the visitor parking lot, concealed on low ground between Route 24 and the village. Surfaced in asphalt with concrete sidewalks, this lot serves as the main entrance to the village. Located on low ground behind a slight rise in the topography, the visitor parking lot is barely visible from within the village. Other parking in the village is restricted to park use, including a gravel staff parking lot behind the Bocock-Isbell house and a gravel service lot behind the bookstore.

The 6-mile History/Nature Trail follows the Stage Road trace through the center of the village, continuing on to the east and west along the historic road trace. This trail is a pedestrian link to other sites of interest within the greater park. It is surfaced in various materials: stone dust in the village and in other high-traffic areas such as Lee's Headquarters, mown grass in fields, and dirt in wooded areas.

A maintenance yard access road cuts just north of the Peers house directly off the Stage Road. The current paved access road from Route 24 to the maintenance yard does not pass through the village. It was constructed in 1954, then paved and improved in 1981 (Gurney 1954, photo file167/434 and 454; NPS 1981 construction drawings).

Historic conditions

Originally, the Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road was the main axis for through traffic as well as traffic within the village. Secondary lanes such as Back Lane and Bocock Lane appeared during the village's period of growth and were small, local access roads. The Prince Edward Court House Road was another through road which formed an important intersection with the Stage Road near the Jones Law Office.

The Stage Road has changed several times over the years. In 19th century photographs it is visible as a wide, muddy dirt road with deep ruts, much like most other rural routes in Virginia at that time. In the early 20th century with the arrival of the automobile, a new paved road, old Route 24, was built to accommodate traffic on the old Stage Road route. It paralleled the old Stage Road trace for much of its length in the park, and overlaid the historic road within the village. All traffic went

around the courthouse square. At some point there were changes to the road, such as cutting through the embankment at the Peers house and filling near the New Jail. The old Route 24 was replaced in 1954 with a bypass road that arcs to the south of the village. This central axis, and all roads within the village, have been closed to auto traffic since that time. At some point in the 1940s or 1950s, a portion of the Stage Road trace was regraded using machinery. Taken together, these changes to the road trace within the village appear to have had a serious impact.

Summary

The restriction of access within the village to pedestrians and park vehicles restores something of the village's 19th-century character. Regrading and other activities may have altered the actual historic roadbeds. The materials used today for surfacing the roads and paths, while not authentic to what would have existed in 1865, still support the village's historic character.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Back Lane	91929	Contributing	7794		Location	26853	Yes
Bocock Lane	91930	Contributing	7796		Location	26861	Yes
Bocock-Isbell Parking Lot	91931	Noncontributing					No
Bookstore Access Road and Parking Lot	91932	Noncontributing					No
Market Lane/Pryor Wright Lane	91933	Contributing	7795		Location	26854	Yes
Park Entrance Road and Main Parking Lot	91934	Noncontributing					No

Landscape Characteristic: Land Use

Current Conditions

The primary land use at Appomattox Court House today is recreational. Former land uses that are visible today in Appomattox Court House village core are governmental and economic, agricultural, military, funeral, and commemorative.

The Courthouse continues to be the hub of the village, acting now as a visitor center and museum. Some farmland within the village core area is now used as livestock pasture, and orchard trees have been replanted in several house yards.

There are five small cemeteries within the village. Of these, three are family plots, one is a church plot, and one is a single grave. Most are peripheral, tucked behind buildings or in the rear of house lots with no signage and few legible stones. The exception is the Lafayette Meeks grave, located in the field east of Plunkett-Meeks store. The grave is marked by marble head- and footstones with legible engraving and an interpretive marker on the fence that surrounds it. A lone red cedar tree stands near the grave. Significant funerary sites in the village include the Robinson Cemetery, with three graves still evident, surrounded by a low board fence. These are the graves of an African-American shoemaker and his family who lived in the Jones Law Office building after the war. There is no signage. The Patteson-Hix Cemetery, located behind the Clover Hill Tavern kitchen, has a sign and

a few marked stones in poor repair. Other cemeteries in the village are the Presbyterian Church Cemetery and the Wright Cemetery (Both are listed in National Register, not seen).

The era of commemoration is visible in the 14 reconstructed and 13 restored major structures which make up the village today, plus their outbuildings. Sites of buildings which were not reconstructed are marked. Signs and waysides identify places which are significant to the events of 1865.

Historic Conditions

The historic land uses that shaped the village core are governmental and economic, agricultural, military, funeral, and commemorative.

Governmental uses were significant in the creation of the village. The village was officially founded as a county seat in 1845, with most rapid growth in the years from 1847-1858. The Courthouse's central location and stature clearly evidence its past role as center of the county justice system, as do the nearby Old Jail site and New Jail.

Surrounding structures illustrate the economic uses which surrounded this local government hub. Court-related businesses, including law offices, a tavern (which pre-dated the Courthouse and thrived during its heyday), several stores, and blacksmith shops date from this period.

Agriculture was the backbone of the village economy of the mid-19th century, based in cash crops such as tobacco, corn, and wheat (Marvel 1997, 115). In old photographs and drawings, the farm fields come right up to the edge of house yards (APCO photo files). Before 1865, some landowners kept slaves, evident in the slave quarters related to the McLean house and Clover Hill Tavern. Little is known about the effects of emancipation on the village's agricultural economy. By the 1930s when the park was established, much agricultural land around the village had fallen out of use and was growing into forest. Clearing took place as part of the restoration effort, begun by the CCC in 1940-41, and some open land continued in agriculture, as can be seen in photographs from as late as the 1960s (VA State Police aerial photo 1965, no file number/1478A). Orchards and vineyards were also located on properties in the village, as well as kitchen gardens.

Military use took place at Appomattox Court House during 1865. As the Union army caught up with Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, some final fighting took place around Appomattox Court House on April 9. The last Confederate artillery shot was fired near the Peers house. Generals Lee and Grant met in the parlor of the McLean house to discuss the terms of the surrender, and the Confederate troops turned over their weapons along the Stage Road. (This was previously referred to in documentation such as the National Register nomination as occurring at the Surrender Triangle, but recent research has determined this to be incorrect.) The association of the site with these events and these famous men was the reason for the later commemorative actions which led to the preservation and restoration of the village. Photographs from this time show Union soldiers camping on the grounds of the Courthouse (O'Sullivan 1865, photo file 69). Apparently the Union troops remained stationed at Appomattox Court House until November of 1865.

Funerary sites within the village are mostly family plots, and their histories are tied to the histories of the families who lived at Appomattox Court House (Dias 1977). Rather than having a village cemetery, many families appear to have had small burial plots on their own properties. The Lafayette Meeks gravestone, which had fallen into serious disrepair, was restored by the CCC in 1941 (Happel 1941, no file number/946).

The commemorative era in the park's history begins in the 1890s. For many years, little disturbed the quiet at Appomattox Court House. The Courthouse itself was destroyed by fire in 1892, ending its role as a center of activity in the county. During this time the only Civil War-related activities were the dedication of historical markers commemorating the surrender in 1893 and the addition of the nearby North Carolina Monument in 1905. In 1926 the United Daughters of the Confederacy placed a marker at the site of the courthouse, that was later moved to the Confederate Cemetery when the courthouse was reconstructed. Commemorative activities at Appomattox Court House include major reconstruction and restoration of the village structures and grounds carried out from 1940-

1968 by the NPS. The two most significant buildings in the village, the Courthouse and the McLean house, were completely reconstructed. Twenty-five other buildings were restored, rebuilt or rehabilitated, including the Peers house, Bockock-Isbell house, New Jail, Meeks Store, and others, as well as numerous outbuildings. Some outbuildings and vegetation were removed, and fences were erected.

Summary

While land use in the village today is different from what it was in 1865 – then a rural hub of county government caught up at a crucial moment in our nation’s history, the end of the Civil War, and now a protected historic site – the landscape of the village today evokes its past uses and makes them apparent. Agriculture is less intensive, with former crop fields now covered by woodland or used as pasture or hayfields, but it still evokes the rural character of the site. Family burial plots, though intact, are not thoroughly interpreted and more research is needed. The commemorative history is apparent through the presence of the reconstructed buildings, the 1893 iron tablets, and more recent interpretive signage.

Characteristic/Feature-Type of contribution
Lafayette Meeks grave-Contributing
Robinson Cemetery-Contributing
Wright Cemetery-Contributing
Presbyterian Church Cemetery-Contributing
Patteson-Hix Cemetery-Contributing

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Lafayette Meeks grave	91935	Contributing					No
Robinson Cemetery	91938	Contributing					No
Wright Cemetery	91939	Contributing					No
Presbyterian Church Cemetery	91937	Contributing					No
Patteson-Hix Cemetery	91936	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic: Natural Systems and Features

This section covers some of the natural aspects that have influenced the development of physical form of the landscape. It may include geomorphology, geology, hydrology, ecology, climate and/or native vegetation.

Current Conditions

The village sits near the crest of a ridge at elevation 770', on a knoll formed by the north branch of the Appomattox River and its tributary, the Plain Run Branch. Six ephemeral or seasonal creeks, three of which appear to originate within the park, also feed this hydrologic system (visible on USGS maps, 1980 and 1984). The greater landscape of the park is comprised of gently rolling hills of pasture and woodland, classic Virginia Piedmont topography.

The hilly terrain to the north and east rises from the river, from approx. 600'-820'. To the west, the land slopes more gently, forming a ridge with a maximum elevation of about 830 feet in the park. To the south, a thickly wooded ridge rises along the park boundary. Thus the village on its knoll is in a sort of bowl, with higher land surrounding it. The soil is generally Cullen Clay Loam over a mixture of igneous and metamorphic rock. There is also an occurrence of Mecklenburg and Iredell loams (General Management Plan 1977, 18).

Some regrading probably occurred as structures were built and altered. The largest earthwork efforts in the village have been related to the altering of the main roadway, originally the Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road, later Route 24. Machine regrading of the historic Stage Road trace occurred in the 1940s or 1950s. A major cut was made to accommodate a road to the maintenance yard north of the Peers house, and fill was added at the New Jail. Additional grading, drainage, and road work was done in the 1990s. The visitor parking area also appears to have been cut into the existing topography, probably to keep it out of sight lines from the village. See Circulation for more information on these features.

Historic Conditions

As far as it is possible to tell, the topography and hydrology of the village at Appomattox Court House remain relatively intact since 1865, other than the exceptions noted above .

Summary

The natural systems of Appomattox Court House Village are relatively intact despite modifications to the site. Grading has occurred over time, particularly to accommodate automobiles, and has impacted hydrology and topography along the old Stage Road.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
	91940	Undetermined					No

Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features

Current conditions

There are a variety of small scale features in the village. Fences, which appear to have been rebuilt along historic fencelines, profoundly shape the character of the village. A variety of reconstructed picket fences define house lots in the village core, such as the Plunkett-Meeks store and Bocock-Isbell house. Rustic "worm" rail fences appear at the village edges, along roads such as Prince Edward Court House Road. Board fences are visible throughout; some are based on historic fences, such as the Courthouse yard fence and Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road fence. Others appear to have been added in recent years in part to keep livestock from roaming. Several openings in board fences are guarded by three-step stiles, including the Courthouse yard fence and the pasture fence east of the Plunkett-Meeks Store. Fences based on historic photographs also line Market Lane, Back Lane, and Bocock Lane. Current fencing materials tend to be pressure-treated lumber with galvanized hardware such as screws and hinges that are not historic. Rows of mature red cedars and maples show where fencelines may have been in the past. Bluebird houses have been mounted on many fenceposts in the village.

Of the ten historic cast iron tablets erected in 1893 by the War Department throughout the park, four remain; two are located in the village, one near the Peers house where the last Confederate artillery shots were fired and one at the first meeting place of Grant and Lee. (See the landscape CLI for the other tablets.) There are a number of non-historic small scale features throughout the village core which are recent additions. Waysides and numerous types of signs direct visitors and interpret the site. Colors and formats for some of the signs are based on the original blue and grey iron tablets, which gives a sense of historical continuity in interpretation.

Drainage is mostly via grassed roadside swales and brick culverts. One small-scale feature, which appears to be historic, is an unusual fieldstone and clay pipe culvert east of the Jones Law Office.

There are a variety of styles of trash receptacles, and both non-historic and historic-looking benches at many locations. Many of these do not contribute to the historic feel of the site. One feature which does is the recent addition of old-fashioned barrels to conceal fire hydrants.

The walkway from the visitor parking lot to the village center is marked by a large sign with a planting bed, a flagpole, bench, and wayside, designed as a unit. A variety of types of signage direct and welcome visitors. Various sized metal signs in different colors display park rules, direct traffic, and provide wayfinding assistance; large metal enameled waysides display interpretive information. A large painted wooden park sign marks the entrance to the parking area from Route 24.

Other non-contributing features include the contemporary additions to the yard of the Peers House, such as the privacy fence and satellite dish.

Historic conditions

Fences are visible in old photographs and drawings dating back as far as 1865, showing a variety of fencing types in place within the village. Board fences surrounded the Courthouse, while picket fences enclosed some house yards (O'Sullivan 1865, photo file 69; Frankenstein 1865, photo file 107). Fences were restored and new ones added in the 1940s-1960s according to these historic types. Little is known about other small scale features extant in the village before the 1890s because they are not recorded in written records, drawings, or photographs.

In 1893, memorial tablets of cast iron were placed at various sites in the village, including the Lee-Grant meeting site, Courthouse site, McLean house site, and in front of the Peers house where the last Confederate cannon was fired. (Montgomery, Engle, and Tobias 1989, 7:41)

Summary

Small scale features that are meant to look historic, most notably fences, have been based on those visible in photographs and drawings circa 1865. These contribute greatly to the character of the village. Small scale features from the era of commemoration are some of the only existing historic

small scale features; more research is needed to determine if any other small scale features are original to the period of significance. Some recent non-historic small scale features such as trash cans and benches appear in many forms, and are not contributing.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Back Lane fence	91941	Contributing	80324		Asset	1439151	No
Barrels	91942	Noncontributing					No
Benches	91943	Noncontributing					No
Bluebird houses	91944	Noncontributing					No
Bocock Lane fence	91945	Contributing	80326		Asset	1439151	No
Bocock-Isbell fence	91946	Contributing	80312		Asset	42486	Yes
Brick culverts	91947	Noncontributing					No
Courthouse yard fence	91948	Contributing	80310		Asset	42427	Yes
Grant and Lee Meeting Site Tablet	91949	Contributing	80308		Asset	45653	Yes
Jones Law Office fieldstone culvert	91950	Undetermined			Asset	1107692	No
Last Shot Fired Tablet	91951	Contributing	80309		Asset	45654	Yes
Market Lane fence	91952	Contributing	80325		Asset	1439151	No
Peers House contemporary additions to yard, including satellite dish	91953	Noncontributing					No
Plunkett-Meeks fence	91954	Contributing	80311		Asset	42558	Yes
Prince Edward Court House Road fence	91955	Contributing	80323		Asset	1439151	No
Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road fence	91956	Contributing	80322		Asset	1439151	No
Swales with grass or riprap	92699	Noncontributing					No
Trash receptacles	92738	Noncontributing					No
Visitor parking lot entry area with flagpole, sign, and wayside	92739	Noncontributing					No
Waysides and other signage	92740	Noncontributing					No

Landscape Characteristic: Spatial Organization

Current conditions

The village precinct is on the crest of a ridge in the center of the park landscape of hilly pasture and woodland. The land slopes down to the Appomattox River to the north and Route 24 to the south. Today the village is comprised of "late 18th and 19th century buildings and ancillary structures set within a framework of historic roads, fences, hedgerows, fields and vegetation." (Morris Arboretum et al. 1997, 1) The village displays a distinctive cluster arrangement along the top of the ridge, with the Courthouse at its center, set apart and completely encircled by the road. Locations of former businesses line this "courthouse square" and the Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road in either direction, becoming interspersed with homes, which are generally set back from the road edge within fenced yards. The buildings are spaced further apart and become quite scattered at the periphery of the village, where a more rural homestead pattern becomes evident, with buildings bearing less relation to the roadway. The land surrounding the village slopes away; the fences, roads and structures disperse and give way to open pasture, surrounded more distantly by wooded slopes.

The village is crossed by historic roadbeds, most of which are currently pedestrian paths. A segment of the Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road passes through the center of the village on axis with the Courthouse's east and west entrances, circling around the Courthouse building. This alignment sets the Courthouse as the focal point and center of the village. Visitors enter the village not along this axis, but from a parking lot just to the south of the Courthouse.

The maintenance yard is located adjacent to the Stage Road, just to the east of the village behind the Peers house. The primary access to the maintenance yard is not through the village, but via an access road from Route 24.

Historic Conditions

Entry to and travel through the village has historically been primarily along the Stage Road. The village was organized around this axis, with businesses and homes in the 19th century densely lining it, some right at the road edge and others set back in fenced lots. The Courthouse was the centerpoint of the village and its hub of activity. Fields were farmed right up to the edge of the village, with agricultural fields dropping away down the slopes of the ridge. The village itself was dense with trees and buildings, in sharp contrast to the surrounding open farmland. It was a working, vernacular landscape in the 19th century and at the time of the surrender. In later years, as structures fell out of use or decayed, many sites in the village became overgrown and agricultural fields went into succession. The main route of travel, old Route 24, overlaid and straightened part of the Stage Road and continued to go through the courthouse square. The addition of the Route 24 bypass in 1954 restored some of the 19th-century quiet to the center of the village, routing auto traffic around the periphery. Clearing and reconstruction work between 1940 and 1968 restored some of the spatial relationships of the mid-19th century village. The maintenance yard, added during the early part of the NPS era (1940-1954), appears to have been primarily accessed through the village as late as 1960 (VA State Police aerial photo 1965, no file number/1478A).

Summary

The restored village retains much of the character of the 19th century. While it is less dense now due to the disappearance and removal of numerous buildings, mostly shops and outbuildings, many structures have been restored and rebuilt, rendering some of the historic spatial relationships of the village visible. One overall pattern visible in comparing historic photos to current conditions is that historic structures built directly on the road edge appear to have survived less frequently than those set back on lots. Examples of such missing structures include the Rosser shop and stable and the Raine Tavern. Isbell house, Peers house and the Clover Hill Tavern are examples of restored or surviving structures set back from the road. This changes the spatial experience of the village.

The current parking lot and entrance does not give a historically accurate orientation, as it is on the site of the McLean Stable and a former agricultural field, and not on historic routes of entry. The current maintenance access road does not pass through the village, but the maintenance yard is

visible from the Stage Road at the east edge of the village.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
	92741	Undetermined					No

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

Current conditions

There is a variety of vegetation in the village. Besides native trees and shrubs, there are examples of ornamental plantings ranging from trees to flowers, herbs, and turf grasses. The ground surface throughout the village is mowed turf. According to the Historic Core Village Vegetation Inventory and Management Plan, many trees from the period of significance have been lost in the years prior to the 1997 study, but there are several notable trees remaining within the village (Morris Arboretum et al. 1997, 1). A tree-of-heaven [*Ailanthus altissima*] at the Peers House appears to date to at least the 1880s (Morris Arboretum et al. 1997, 2). Among the trees in the village center is a large ash [*Fraxinus* sp.], estimated by the Vegetation Inventory at about 170 years old, beside the Plunkett-Meeks store (Morris Arboretum et al. 1997, 3:5). Also notable is an old, picturesque red cedar [*Juniperus virginiana*] marking Lafayette Meeks' grave (further research is needed to determine if this tree was planted as early as 1861, or was a volunteer). At the McLean house, a row of four black locusts, two mature and two recently planted, appear to be a restoration of a historic feature. One old apple tree [*Malus* sp.] stands near the Mariah Wright cabin, possibly a sole survivor of an orchard planting. There are numerous mature, black locust [*Robinia pseudoacacia*], honey locust, red maple, and ash trees planted around buildings and along roadways. Several lilacs [*Syringa vulgaris*], possibly historic, were recently removed from near the Old County Jail site and behind the Clover Hill Tavern; a mature flowering quince [*Chaenomeles japonica*] at the Rosser house site may be historic. There is a row of mature red cedars along the Prince Edward Court House Road trace just north of Route 24. A honey locust [*Gleditsia triacanthos*] north of the Peers house, estimated to be over 200 years old, died and was removed in the summer of 2000.

Boxwoods [*Buxus sempervirens*] frame the front steps of the Bocock-Isbell and Peers houses. They are fairly mature, and were planted by NPS circa 1959 (APCO 1941, photo file 1078: shows Bocock-Isbell house prior to restoration without boxwoods). They may be historic.

A number of non-historic ornamental plantings date to the NPS era. A row of mature red maples [*Acer rubrum*] probably marked a boundary edge west of the McLean property. Newly planted fruit trees in the yards of several houses, including an orchard at the McLean house, will add to a sense of this historic landscape feature when they mature. Plantings around the McLean house, Bocock-Isbell house, and Jones law office include non-contributing herb beds, planted with lavender, dianthus, thyme, malva, lemon balm, and other perennials. There are also plantings of English ivy [*Hedera helix*], trumpetcreeper honeysuckle [*Lonicera sempervirens*], and Vinca minor, some of which may be historic, and China roses [*Rosa* sp.] planted in the 1950s.

In the 1990s turf with plastic mesh backing was used in the village. Due to wear, the backing is now visible at places.

Historic conditions

Historic photographs and drawings show distinct vegetation patterns in the village core. Locust, ash, and American elm [*Ulmus americana*] were planted in house yards and along roads, giving the village a grovelike quality in contrast to the open agricultural land surrounding it. Kitchen gardens, small vineyards, and orchards of fruit trees were associated with many of the homes in the village.

A row of black locusts, visible on some historic photographs and drawings, was planted along the east side of the path from the front door of the McLean house to the Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road (Waterman 1865, photo file 151; APCO n.d. photo file 97).

Summary

Few historic trees remain within the village. Orchards noted on the 1962 Historical Basemap are no longer in evidence. Some new plantings such as the orchards and locust row in front of the McLean House enhance the historic character of the village, because they replace historic vegetation patterns which have disappeared. Others, like the historic, ailing honey locust at Peers House, may need to be replaced soon. In general, even without the original plants, the existence of historic plant types such as the fruit trees and honey locusts contributes to the character of the village.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Boxwoods	92742	Undetermined					No
Flower and herb beds	92743	Noncontributing					No
Fruit trees and orchards	92744	Noncontributing					No
Lafayette Meeks' Grave red cedar	92745	Contributing			Asset	1176531	No
Mariah Wright House apple tree	92746	Contributing			Asset	1176531	No
McLean House black locust row	92747	Contributing			Asset	1176531	No
McLean House row of red maples	92748	Noncontributing					No
Peers House tree-of-heaven	92749	Contributing			Asset	1176531	No
Plunkett-Meeks Store ash	92750	Contributing			Asset	1176531	No
Prince Edward Court House Road red cedar row	92751	Contributing			Asset	1176531	No

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

Current conditions

Views and vistas are particularly significant at Appomattox Court House because of the village's position on top of a knoll. Gazing out from the village at the sweeping views of surrounding pasture and forests, one imagines that a soldier would have seen a similar view in April 1865, with the exception of Route 24 cutting through the park. The Courthouse's position on axis with the Stage Road makes it a strong focal point for views. There are notable views of the village and the Stage Road from the top of the exterior Courthouse stairs. The Courthouse and village are also visible from surrounding areas, such as the wayside at Lee's Headquarters and the Confederate Cemetery. However, views out from the village are adversely affected by the traffic and pavement of Route 24.

Historic conditions

Views and vistas were historically very broad, with almost all the surrounding land under agricultural use. As a result, outlying homesteads such as the Tibbs house were visible from the village core. Views have changed since 1865 due to the decline of agriculture and the growth of forests on lands that were formerly cleared.

The vista along the Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road to the Courthouse is historically significant. Many early artists and photographers depicted Appomattox Court House in views similar to what can be seen today from the Stage Road trace on the western edge of the village. This image captured the popular imagination about Appomattox Court House in the 19th century and later, as it was duplicated in many versions, usually centering on the Courthouse with the McLean house to its right (Photo file 2, 111, 113, 113A, 113B, 118, 236, 270).

Summary

Views and vistas are not identical today to those in 1865; today they are more limited. The essential rural character of the village's setting is maintained by the current vistas of the park landscape, and the forest growth helps to conceal some views of contemporary adjacent structures, but not Route 24 and its traffic. Views within the village, particularly of the Courthouse from the Stage Road, are similar to the views in 1865.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Views from the village and Courthouse to the surrounding land	92752	Contributing					No

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 2

Next Assessment Due Date: 07/15/2027

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 07/15/2025

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The overall landscape is well-maintained and in good condition.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/25/2023

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Provisional. The condition reassessment for this CLI has been delayed due to the effects of Covid-19 travel restrictions and staffing shortages. In the meantime, the most recent condition assessment will remain in place until it is reassessed. Planning and scheduling for this update will occur in FYs 2023-2024.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 08/28/2013

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

In consultation with Patrick Schroeder, Brian Eick, and Joe Williams, and with concurrence from the Superintendent, the Appomattox Courthouse Village is in good condition. The definition of "good" is as follows: "the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition."

According to project statements in PMIS, the park has addressed the March 2009 ice storm damage to trees and fences, and recently completed a major vegetation management project in the village that brought conditions of the trees there to a generally good condition (PMIS 154291, 170022). The c.1960 Richard and Dorothy Sweeney house has been demolished, restoring the site to its 1865 appearance (152687), and work is underway on rehabilitating the McLean complex exteriors (180317) and stabilizing the Sweeney Prizery (192102). Future projects include demolishing the Claudine O'Brien House and outbuildings to restore the historic view (158413), and stabilizing the exteriors of the Charles Sweeney cabin (193494) and Sweeney-Conner cabin (193828). There is also a project to research and document the Mt. Comfort cemetery (124828), and preparing a Cultural Landscape Preservation Maintenance and Treatment Implementation Plan for the village (189947). It should be noted that the project, "Restore Native Grasses for Cultural Landscape, Improve Wildlife Habitat and Control Exotic Plants (80619)" completed in 2006, has been a great success.

Park staff noted some negative impacts to monitor, including the increase in traffic, development adjacent to the park boundaries, and the visual impact of the radio tower projects. They also noted that the Civil War Trust has secured several easements along the south ridge.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 08/08/2007

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The Appomattox Court House Village shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the current environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 12/14/2000

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The landscape condition was reassessed in consultation with the park superintendent.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/30/1999

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Impacts

Type of Impact: Adjacent Lands

Other Impact:

External or Internal: External

Impact Narrative: Vistas of adjacent lands are important to the character of Appomattox Court House village. Currently, the adjacent lands within view of the village are undeveloped. Development in any of these areas, particularly on the ridge to the south of the park boundary, would have a negative impact on the village. Additionally, the loss of large sweeps of pines planted along boundaries through the pine bark beetle or other cause could expose development on adjacent lands.

Date Identified: 07/29/2005

Type of Impact: Other

Other Impact: Traffic/Noise

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Impact Narrative: Noise can be heard in the village from the high-speed truck traffic on Route 24, the main park corridor road. This disrupts the otherwise rural, 19th-century character of the village core and surrounding lands. Traffic is potentially hazardous to visitors, who must share this 55-mph road with trucks, since it is the only road accessing the village visitor parking.

Date Identified: 07/29/2005

Type of Impact: Release To Succession

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Impact Narrative: Views of the surrounding parkland from the village core are very different today than they were in the 19th century due to the release of agricultural land into forest succession. Lands that were once open are now covered in maturing hardwood forest.

Date Identified: 07/29/2005

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

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Walker, John W.	Excavations at Appomattox Court House, 1962 Season	1963				001683
Carroll, Orville W.	Historic Structures Report, Architectural Data for the Reconstruction of the Village Fences, Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, Appomattox, Virginia	1959				001468

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Cauble, Frank P.	Historical Data on the Richmond - Lynchburg Stage Road in the Vicinity of Appomattox Court House, 1860 - 1865					001470
Paige, John C.	The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-1942	1985			PHSO Library	
Gurney, Hubert A.	A Brief History of Appomattox Court House National Historical Park	1955				
Marvel, William	Appomattox County Land Books, 1845-1881	1845			Transcribed in 1997 from originals held at Appomattox County Courthouse	
Lucchetti, Leigh, and McCartney	Archeological Survey for Sewer Force Main Construction	1992				

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: APCO Photograph Archives

Supplemental Information Narrative:

Historic images are all from the Park photograph archives. Where the authors are known, they have been credited in the reference; others are designated as APCO property. Photographs originating at other sites are also noted in the reference. Where known, the photograph file number is listed, followed by the number of the negative.

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: Bill Talbot, APCO Maintenance Division, oral interview

Supplemental Information Narrative:

May 15-16, 2000

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: Michler Map of Appomattox Court House

Supplemental Information Narrative:

1867

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: NPS Land Acquisition Division: Appomattox Court House National Historic Park Tract and Boundary Map

Supplemental Information Narrative:

January 1981, APCO Park Files

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: NPS Plan: 1865 Vegetation Lines, Appomattox Court House National Historical Park

Supplemental Information Narrative:

1997

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: NPS Plan: Appomattox Court House National Historical Park

Supplemental Information Narrative:

Richard Easterbrook, GIS Specialist, Petersburg, 1999(?)

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: NPS Plan: Appomattox Court House National Historical Park - Trail System

Supplemental Information Narrative:

Richard Easterbrook, GIS Specialist, Petersburg, 1999(?)

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: NPS Plan: Historic Base Map as of 1865, Part of Master Plan, Appomattox Court House National Historical Monument

Supplemental Information Narrative:

1940

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: NPS: Field Clearing, Vista and Selective Cutting Over Entire Area, Appomattox Court House National Historic Monument

Supplemental Information Narrative:

Designer: Sheffield, NHM:APP/2008, Sept. 1940, APCO Park Maintenance Files

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: NPS: Job Plan for Razing Undesirable Non-Historic Structures, Appomattox Court House National Historic Monument

Supplemental Information Narrative:

Designer: Sheffield, NHM:APP/2011, July 1940, APCO Park Maintenance Files
Note on drawing: CCC Job No. 23

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: NPS: Proposed Cemetery Development, Preliminary Sketch

Supplemental Information Narrative:

Nov. 14, 1956, APCO Park Maintenance Files

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: NPS: Proposed Road to Maintenance Area, Appomattox Court House National Historic Park

Supplemental Information Narrative:

Designer: Leslie Fugedy, July 1981, APCO Park Maintenance Files

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: Ron Wilson, Park Historian/Chief of Interpretation, oral interview

Supplemental Information Narrative:

1999

Landscape Documents:

File Name	Date	Attachment Type
CL-FMSS_crosswalk-APCO_Village.xlsx		Other Report
APCO_NHP Landscape-Appomattox Village_CLI Update Notes_2025.pdf		

Source