

Virginia Department of Historic Resources PIF Resource Information Sheet

This information sheet is designed to provide the Virginia Department of Historic Resources with the necessary data to be able to evaluate the significance of the property for possible listing in the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. This is not a formal nomination, but a necessary step in determining whether or not the property could be considered eligible for listing. Please take the time to fill in as many fields as possible. A greater number of completed fields will result in a more timely and accurate assessment. Staff assistance is available to answer any questions you have in regards to this form.

General Property Information		For Staff Use Only DHR ID #: 057-5027	
Property Name(s): <u>The Old Store (Old Storage Building behind Sibley’s Store)</u>			
Property Date(s):	<u>1816</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Circa <input type="checkbox"/> Pre <input type="checkbox"/> Post	Open to the Public?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Property Address:	<u>Behind Sibley’s General Store Main Street</u>	City: <u>Mathews, VA</u>	Zip: <u>23109</u>
County or Ind. City:	<u>Mathews County</u>	USGS Quad(s):	<u>Mathews Courthouse, Mathews VA</u>

Physical Character of General Surroundings

Acreeage: <1A Setting (choose one): City Urban Town Suburban Rural Transportation Corridor

Site Description Notes/Notable Landscape Features: The Old Store is currently located behind the Sibley’s Store building on Main Street. The Old Store most recently was used as a storage facility for the Sibley’s Store. The proposed new location is less than two blocks to the Northwest on property owned by the County of Mathews. The county property is across Brickbat Road from the Historic Mathews Courthouse Square. The Square is currently having an Architectural and Archaeological registry update to provide a new management plan. This update is being performed by The Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

Secondary Resource Description (Briefly describe any other structures (or archaeological sites) that may contribute to the significance of the property: The new location will be next to the Historic Tompkins Cottage that was originally a store and is now used by the Mathews County Historical Society as a museum. This proposed new location will place the Old Store in a retail as well as historic context.

Ownership Category: Private Public-Local Public-State Public-Federal

Individual Resource Information

What was the **historical use of this resource?** Examples include: Dwelling, Grist Mill, Bridge, Store, Tobacco Barn, etc...

The Old Store was originally built in 1816(ca) by Thomas James as a retail store. (The name was James Store). Taxes for a retail store are recorded for 1816, 17, 18, 19 and 1820. Subsequent to this date business taxes were not identified and separated from the land taxes (real estate).

What is the current use ? (if other than the historical use)	The Old Store has been a storage facility for the current Sibley's store since 1899 when the Old Store was moved from Main Street to make way for the new 2 ½ Story new Sibleys that was constructed between 1899-1900
Architectural style or elements of styles:	"A" frame with mortise and tendon fasteners of structural members. Roof is a 40degree pitch.
Architect, builder , or original owner:	No builder has been identified but it is believed that the original owner, Thomas James (1777-1850) was the owner/builder of the James Store (original name of the Old Store).
# of stories One with Condition:	Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Fair Deteriorated Poor Ruins Rebuilt Renovated
Are there any known threats to this property ?	YES The town of Mathews is going to install a sanitary sewer line through the site on which the Old Store is positioned and the Old Store is either going to be moved or demolished at the expense of the current owner.

Resource Component Information	
Please answer the following questions regarding the individual components of the resource. If the component does not exist, answer "n/a." If you feel uncomfortable in answering the question, please leave the space blank. Photographs of the features can also help our staff identify specific feature components. Usually, priority is given to describing features on the primary (front) facade of the structure.	
Foundation:	Describe the foundation that supports the structure. Examples include piers, continuous brick, and poured concrete. The Old Store is currently on piers , however after preliminary inspection, the underside of the floor and joists show that this area may have been painted with lime whitewash; an indication of a cellar or basement. This is still under investigation. The original foundation is not at this location but was framed over to build the new Sibley Store in 1899.
Structure:	Describe the primary structural component of the resource. Include primary material used. Examples include log, frame (sawn lumber), and brick. Also include the treatment, such as a particular brick bond or type of framing, if known. The primary structure is sawn lumber with mortise and tendon structure fastenings.
Walls:	Describe the exterior wall covering such as beaded weatherboard or asbestos shingles. The exterior Walls are of sawn clapboard lap siding, There is no evidence of sub exterior walls.
Windows:	Describe the number, material, and form of the primary windows. This includes the number of panes per sash, what the sashes are made of, and how the sashes operate (are they hinged or do they slide vertically) Have the windows been replaced? Window location, description and number can not be identified until considerable covering material has been removed. We do not feel comfortable doing this until we have received ownership of the building. We have identified the location of the bookkeeper window from locals who were familiar with the building..
Porch:	Briefly describe the primary (front) porch. List the primary material, shape of the porch roof, and other defining details. The Porch was removed (we believe) when the two wings were added to the structure to provide additional storage space (after 1900).
Roof:	Describe the roof, listing the shape and the covering material. The Roof is an approximate 40degree A.
Chimney(s):	List the number of chimneys and the materials used. Include the brick bond pattern if possible. No Chimney was designed or built in the original Old Store. There is no evidence of a chimney having been added subsequently.

Architectural Description of Individual Resource: *(Please describe architectural patterns, types, features, additions, remodelings, or other alterations. A sketch of the current floor plan would be appreciated)*

Locals who are familiar with the Old Store have observed that even in recent years, the building had generally shelving around the interior perimeter of the building with a front entry (now on the North elevation and a heavy freight or receiving door on the west wall. The South wall contained the rear door (may have been added) and at least one window. The East wall contained the bookkeeper's office with an exterior window. Ladder stairs were on the West wall leading to the attic over the same footprint as the first floor. Most of the interior has been gutted leaving some walls with only studs for support.

A floor plan is not available but will be developed after structural investigation is completed by The Mathews Historical Society.

Significance Statement: Briefly note any significant events, personages, and/or families associated with the property. (Detailed family genealogies are not necessary.) Please list all sources of information. It is not necessary to attach lengthy articles or genealogies to this form. Normally, only information contained on this form is forwarded to the State Review Board.

The property on which the building is currently located is observed from county records:

Date	From	To	Description	Other
1815	James Pattereson	John James	54 a	Retail
license 1816-1820				
1846	John James	Elija Barnum & John Davis	1 a	With
Building				
1893	Barnum Store & Lot	William Trader & John Dixon	Lot with	
Storehouse (Barnum)				
1899	Barnum Storehouse	Henry & Joseph Sibley	Store and lot	
(store name not known)				
1945	H & J Sibley	Cecil Sibley	Store	known
as Sibley's				

Building dating:

The above data collected from County records. Mathews as well as many other counties sent their records to the State Capital in Richmond for safe keeping near the outset of the Civil War. Many records were destroyed when Richmond was burned during the Civil War.

Willie Graham – Curator Architecture Colonial Williamsburg Foundation:

- Old Store Building indicates “end of First Colonial Period”
- Old Store Built first 1/2 of 19th century- (No Chimney-they were introduced in 1850)
- Old Store - Probably one of 10 or less surviving in the Traditional South

Will Gwilliam Architectural Historian - Williamsburg.

- Visited site and encouraged Mathews Historical Society to receive the Old Store and preserve it. It appears to be of the period of the turn of the 19th century.
- Gave suggestions on restoring facility

- Recommended relocating near Tompkins Cottage for continuity.
- Gave committee suggestions for how to move it.

Jack Caldwell – Retired Architect – formerly involved in Historic building restorations.

- Has offered to develop record drawings to facilitate restoration.

Legal Owner(s) of the Property (For more than one owner, please use a separate sheet.)			
Mr.	Mrs.	Michael J. Brown	Bay & River Real Estate
Ms.	Miss		
(Name)		Mathews	(Firm) VA 23109
(Address)	32 Church Street		(State) (Zip Code) 804 725 2292
	Michael@bayandriver.com		(Daytime telephone including area code)
	(Email Address)		
TO FOLLOW ON MONDAY			
Owner's Signature:	_____		Date: _____
•• Signature required for processing all applications. ••			
In the event of corporate ownership you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person. NA			
Contact person:	_____		
Daytime Telephone:	()		

Applicant Information (Individual completing form if other than legal owner of property)			
Mr.	Mrs.	Frank Lansinger	Mathews County Historical Society
Ms.	Miss		
(Name)		Cobbs Creek	(Firm) VA 23035
(Address)	17 Sail Cove Court		(State) (Zip Code) 804 725 2888
	lansinger@oonl.com		(Daytime telephone including area code)
	(Email Address)		
Applicant's Signature:	_____		Date: October 14, 2006

Notification			
In some circumstances, it may be necessary for the department to confer with or notify local officials of proposed listings of properties within their jurisdiction. In the following space, please provide the contact information for the local County Administrator or City Manager.			
Mr.	Mrs. Dr.	Steven Whiteway	County administrator
Miss	Ms. Hon.	_____	

County of Mathews VA	(Name)		P.O. Box 839	(Position)
(Locality)			(Address)	
Mathews,	VA	23109	804 725-7172	
(City)	(State)	(Zip Code)	(Daytime telephone including area code)	