

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

**1. Name of Property**

Historic name: Edenetta

Other names/site number: DHR No. 028-0010

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**2. Location**

Street & number: 6514 Tidewater Trail

City or town: Chance State: VA County: Essex

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination     request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets     does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

    national     statewide   X   local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

  X   A     B   X   C     D

<p><b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b> <u>Virginia Department of Historic Resources</u> State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	<p><b>Date</b></p>
--	--------------------

<p>In my opinion, the property <u>   </u> meets <u>   </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p><b>Signature of commenting official:</b></p>	<p><b>Date</b></p>
<p><b>Title :</b></p>	<p><b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

---

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

---

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

---

#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	objects
<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

---

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

DOMESTIC: Secondary Structure

FUNERARY: Cemetery

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

DOMESTIC: Secondary Structure

FUNERARY: Cemetery

LANDSCAPE: Garden

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

---

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY: Greek Revival

---

---

---

---

---

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK; WOOD; METAL

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

---

### Summary Paragraph

Edenetta is an undiscovered gem of a house, located in the rural northern end of Essex County along State Route 17, also known as Tidewater Trail. It was built ca. 1800-1805 by Robert Payne Waring, of the locally prominent Waring family, and is reflective of their socio-economic status in Essex County. The original house, built of brick in a local variation of the Federal style, was redesigned in the 1850s with significant Greek Revival modifications to both the exterior and the interior. Despite being put up for auction twice, the house stayed in the Waring and Baylor families until 1984, when it was sold to the present owners, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Y. Coleman. The house sits in the midst of 261 acres, now planted as a tree farm, and is well maintained. Along with the main house there is an interesting collection of outbuildings from the nineteenth century, including a rare two-story brick kitchen/quarters, a square brick smokehouse with a pyramidal roof, as well as several sites that include the remnants of an ice house and a Waring family cemetery. Due to the extensive farming over several generations, the large number of enslaved persons owned by the Waring family, and the amount of acreage still associated with the property, there is high potential for intact archaeological resources. Although modified in the late twentieth century, the main house still exhibits prominent architectural features with good integrity from both the Federal period and the Greek Revival period. The surviving outbuildings, although suffering somewhat from neglect, retain a high degree of integrity from the mid-nineteenth century. The property's contributing resources consist of the primary dwelling,

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

kitchen building, smokehouse (structure), icehouse site, outbuilding site, and Waring family cemetery. Non-contributing resources consist of the entrance gates (two objects), decorative marker (object), reconstructed springhouse (structure), garden (site), and Coleman family cemetery, all of which postdate the property's period of significance.

---

## Narrative Description

### Setting

The current 261-acre property of Edenetta is located in northern rural Essex County at 6514 Tidewater Trail, also known as State Route 17, and is slightly southeast of the community of Loretto and just north of the crossroads community known as Chance. Prominently situated on a hill overlooking Popoman Creek, a tributary of Occupacia Creek, it is located just inland from the Rappahannock River, representing the second wave of plantation settlement that followed the earlier English colonial settlements along the river. Popoman Creek meanders along the eastern side of the property before joining Occupacia Creek, which runs along the property's southern boundary.

The primary dwelling and domestic complex are approached from Route 17 along a gravel drive just over a quarter-mile long. Most of the drive traverses through a wooded area until just before the house, and then passes through prominent brick and iron gates that were constructed in the late 1980s utilizing some pieces of the mid-nineteenth century iron balustrade from the exterior of the house. A dirt circular drive is located in front of the entrance of the house on the north façade. Within the circle, offset towards the northwest side, is a small brick pedestal with a concrete obelisk about three feet high with "Edenetta" engraved in it, dating to the 1980s.

The north-facing primary dwelling is situated within a level, grassy area. Directly to its east is a series of outbuildings arranged in a north/south axis, with the brick kitchen at the north end and a brick smokehouse at the south end. Between these two outbuildings is the site of a collapsed outbuilding, which some records indicate originally was a dairy. Immediately west of the outbuildings and behind (south of) the primary dwelling, is a non-historic circular brick and concrete garden which is on axis with the main entrance on the dwelling's south (rear) elevation. Northeast of the domestic complex, in a heavily wooded area close to Popoman Creek, stands the reconstructed springhouse. East of the domestic complex, and also within a wooded area near the meandering stream, is the remains of an icehouse. Across the lawn on the west side of the house, the Waring family cemetery is located within an area now surrounded by trees. About fifty yards south of this cemetery, in an open, grassy, level area, is the Coleman family cemetery.

Although a large amount of historic acreage is still associated with this property and it contributes to the integrity of its setting and location, it does not contain any extant built resources from its historic agricultural use. The surviving outbuildings and known sites in the immediate vicinity of the house define the historic domestic functions of this once vast plantation. There are no surviving farm buildings or slave quarters. In the more recent past the land has been utilized as a tree farm and much of what would have historically been open agricultural fields is now characterized by young growth forest.

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

**Primary Dwelling (contributing building), Stories 2.5, Federal ca. 1800, Greek Revival, ca. 1853**

The main house of Edenetta is laid out in what would become known as the Port Royal plan, a localized variation of the center-hall plan popular in the Federal period. Other houses of this plan include Nanzatico (NRHP 1969; DHR #048-0015) and Belle Grove (NRHP 1973; DHR #048-0027) in King George County, and the Gray and Brockenbrough houses in the nearby Port Royal Historic District (NRHP 1970; DHR#284-0047), a town located on the Rappahannock River in Caroline County.<sup>1</sup> All of these houses were built between 1790-1810, and all were built by Tidewater planter-merchants of wealth and education, who understood the importance of hospitality and entertaining to their lifestyle.

There are three main distinctions of the Port Royal plan: a centered projection beyond the plane of the north-facing façade, an arch spanning the central passage dividing the entrance area and passage, and the concealing of the staircase between the passage and a chamber. All of these variations would allow for a more imposing house, one that conveyed the social status both of guests and owners. The projection would enhance the approach and entrance, the interior arch would divide the entrance from the passage, and the hidden stairs would allow the open passage area to become another room for entertaining, turning it into a visitor parlor, as opposed to the family or company parlor.<sup>2</sup> The projection would also add a wind tunnel effect, allowing for better ventilation in the hot summers. Edenetta is the sole surviving Port Royal house with the projected bay to the second floor, a feature allowing better ventilation upstairs, and creating another room. Edenetta is also the only one of the known Port Royal houses to be built of brick, no doubt handmade by African American workers enslaved on the Waring family's property. The brickwork is Flemish bond, and the mortar made from an abundant supply of Rappahannock River oysters.

Built of load-bearing brick, the house's main block is five-bays wide, two bays deep, two-and-a-half stories in height, with a high water table, side-gable roof, and tall interior end chimneys with corbeled caps. The roof is clad with a synthetic material molded to have the appearance of standing seam metal. The cornice has return eaves and plain modillions. A front-gabled, two-story bay projects from the north façade (historic photos demonstrate that the bay had a flat roof prior to the 1990s). Attached to the projecting bay is a one-story, front-gabled porch with simple Tuscan columns. The porch measures 8-by-18 feet, and shelters an entry with a single-leaf door highlighted by flanking multiple-light sidelights and transom. On the main block's east side is a front-gabled, brick, one-story addition constructed in the 1980s and connected to the main block via a one-story, side gable hyphen. The main block's south (rear) elevation features a monumental, two-story, front gable porch with massive Tuscan columns and fronted by a flight of stone steps (this porch also had a flat roof prior to the 1990s). The rear entry matches the front, with a single-leaf door, transom, and sidelights. An entry also is centered on the rear wall of the hyphen connecting the main block to the east addition. The main block's fenestration is symmetrically arranged, with small windows with 6-light sash lighting the crawlspace/basement, two tall windows with six-over-nine wood sash to either side of the primary front entry (the south elevation has smaller six-over-six sash to either side of the rear entry), smaller windows

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

with six-over-six wood sash regularly spaced along the second story, and two small gabled dormers with six-over-six wood sash piercing the north and south roof slopes. Two small three-over-three double-hung sash attic windows flank the chimney on each end of the house, and are along each side of the second story of the north façade's projecting bay. Every window, including the small ones, has a brick flat-arch, purged to have the appearance of a stone lintel. The east addition's fenestration is similarly ordered with small 6-light sash windows at the basement level and tall six-over-nine sash windows on the main level.

A rectangle, the main block measures 22 feet wide and 66 feet long; on the interior, the west first-floor room is 22-by-24 feet, the passage is 30-by-18 feet, the east room is 22-by-20 feet, with the other four feet given over to the original enclosed staircase. On the north façade, the tall Federal-style double-hung window sash have thin muntins, with those on the north side featuring six-over-nine lights; and on the south six-over-six lights. The six-over-nine configuration may have been a modification done during the 1850s remodeling to create a walkway out to very small balconies with decorative iron rails, as seen in several photographs taken in 1971 (and on file at the Department of Historic Resources).

On the interior, the windows have faux grained dark paneling, which includes a paneled apron, wall reveals and molding surrounds. They may have once had interior shutters. The interior six-panel doors have the same dark faux graining. The baseboards in both principal first-floor rooms are also grained, with a matching shoe molding and a triple cap, making them almost 12 inches high. Each room has a fireplace. The original, enclosed staircase to the second floor remains, set off in a narrow passage between the south end of the center hall and the east room. Now enclosed by a door, which required the removal of two risers, the bottom of which was curved slightly outward, the space is currently used for storage. Flooring was placed over the top to create a second-floor laundry closet. The stairs from the first floor to the basement and from the second floor to the attic remain intact and unaltered.

On the second floor, there is a room within the projecting bay; otherwise the plan is the same as the first floor. The bedrooms on either side of the central hall have six windows, each of which have double-hung, six-over-six sash. The window trim, doors and baseboards are all painted, although this may have been done in more recent decades. Both rooms have a fireplace, and the room within the projecting bay has a small corner fireplace. The east and west bedrooms have identical mantels, appearing to date to the Greek Revival period.

The third-floor attic has two rooms on either end of a passage that runs along the north wall, and a small room off the passage on the south wall. Each end room has two dormer windows, one on the north façade and one on the south facade, and two small three-over-three double-hung sash windows on each side of the chimney. Originally six dormer windows lit the attic level. The center dormers were removed when the Colemans changed the roofs over the front and back porches from flat to front-gabled. Removal of the center dormers has darkened the passage and the small room off the passage. The four dormers that remain have six-over-six, double-hung sash, with a slight Italianate arch at the top. The attic has no fireplaces; the chimneys may have

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

been bricked up, since it would have been impossible to have slept there without some form of heat. There is an access door to the attic in the passage.

The basement has two matching end rooms, each with wide fireplaces, connected by a passage along the south wall. These spaces are lit by three-over-three double-hung wood sash with deep sills and painted trim on the north and south walls. Each room has an exterior door on the end wall. The south wall has no windows along the passage, and is suffering from moisture problems because the south porch has no ventilation holes under it. There is a room off the passage that may have been a wine and spirits cellar, since it has bars for doors, and there are bars over an opening to the west room. The doors to the closets in this room are vertical board, with square head nails and long strap hinges. These may have been removed from an outbuilding, since they match the doors to the existing smokehouse. The west room may have been a coal cellar during the Waring family's occupation. If so, the openings and bars would be a later addition. The floor in this room is brick, and sits lower than the floor in the passage and end rooms which have been raised and covered with tile. The floor in the basement was probably originally made of plank over a hard packed dirt base.

When the house originally was built ca. 1800, the first-floor rooms would have been used as the company parlor and the master bedchamber. The second-floor rooms would have also been bedchambers, while the third floor may have been the bedchambers for children and their nanny. The basement would have had the family parlor and the dining room, while the kitchen was in an outbuilding. At some point in the nineteenth century the kitchen was moved from the outbuilding into the basement, and the family room would have become the dining room. The master chamber was still on the first floor.<sup>3</sup>

Renovations, most probably done during the 1850s, changed Edenetta both inside and out. The north facade's porch, which is believed to have had a front-gable roof, was replaced with a narrow, wood Italianate porch that had a flat roof with a classical cornice and entablature, square, vernacular Tuscan columns, a modillioned frieze, and plain wood railings. A flight of wood steps with wood railings led up to the porch. Around the same time, a decorative wrought iron railing rendered with a design of vines is believed to have been installed along the north facade's projecting bay's flat roof.

In contrast, on the south (rear) elevation, a monumental, classically-derived, flat-roofed porch was added. Featuring four Roman Tuscan columns ten feet in circumference on each level and a flat roof with a massive classical Greek Revival entablature, it remains intact today. A pyramidal stoop with seven stone steps leads up to the porch, and an iron railing runs along the entire second story and between the house and the end columns on the first story. This railing is more geometric in design.

Both the front and rear entries were updated with double doors and Greek Revival three-light transoms and two-light side lights with a panel below; the north entry features etched glass.

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

It is not known whether the original interior had full Adam style details, or was of the plainer American style of Federal, but during the 1850s, the interior was also changed over to Greek Revival style. If the original house followed the Port Royal plan exactly as the others, it would have had an interior arch between the passage and the projecting bay, but this is not there now. An arch may have existed and was removed in the 1850s remodeling. Today, a finished beam separates the two spaces, supported on either end by a decorative plaster bracket. Each ceiling space is defined by a full ornamental plaster cornice that is in excellent condition. All the first-floor doorknobs and keyholes were replaced by ones made of silver, and a silver doorbell is on one of the north entry doors. It rings by a turnkey on the exterior.

Today the two first-floor rooms are both dominated by their mantle pieces. A French Versailles style white marble mantle, decorated with carved vines, leaves, and roses, was installed in the west room. The east room mantle is more severe, of Nero Marquina Egyptian marble, with a center keystone. Both have decorative cast iron doors and were built to burn coal, not wood, and the floors had to be redone and braced to support the weight of these mantles. New hearths of marble were put in to match the mantels.

The fireplaces dominate the rooms, but the ceilings are equally stunning. All the first-floor ceilings were transformed with plaster cast decorations. Both rooms and the passage, as well as the second floor passage, have large center medallions framed by designs of vines and flowers. Full cornices with designs both above and below the cornice set off the ceilings like decorations on a wedding cake. These were likely not cast on site, but were bought in pieces, shipped here and applied, evidenced by the visible seams between sections of the cornice. This is the only documented, extant house in Essex County with this type of decorated ceiling.

When the Baylors bought the property in 1903, they made only a few changes to the house. A door was cut through the window on the main block's east end, and a small porch added which gave quicker access to the outbuildings (the 1980s addition is now in this location). The Baylors later moved the kitchen from the basement and to the side porch, most of which was enclosed with brick, but for a rectangular area along the south side. A window near the north end of the house's east wall was converted to a door for interior access from the main block to the kitchen. A door on the kitchen's south wall opened to the remaining narrow porch, as did a door from the main block's east wall. By 1971, a flight of wood stairs with metal railings led from the porch to ground level. When the Baylors moved the kitchen, they changed the main block's east room from a bedchamber to the dining room. Also at some point during their ownership, the second-story porch on the south side was screened in and remains so today.

When the Colemans bought the house in 1984, they painted the brick house white. They also discovered many problems with the flat roofs on the north façade's projecting two-story bay and on the 1850s porches. They changed the main block's roofing from shingle to a synthetic material molded to give the appearance of standing seam metal, and carried an extension of the roof over the eaves, removing the distinctive look of the return eaves. On the north façade's projecting bay, the flat roof was replaced with a gabled pediment featuring a round window in the apex; installation of the gable roof required removal of the north façade's central dormer. The

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

flat-roofed Italianate porch was replaced with the current, larger, front-gabled porch. The iron railing that had defined the Italianate porch's second story was reused as part of the new entry gates added by the Colemans. The replacement Greek Revival porch has four Tuscan style columns and bases made of resin and a classical pediment with a classical urn-and-swag design in the center. The steps were changed to brick, and expanded the width of the entry porch. Square brick pedestals with cast classical urns flank the entrance steps at ground level, set back several feet from the steps themselves. On the south elevation, the flat-roofed porch's Greek Revival entablature was removed and changed to a simple gabled pediment, although without a window or decorative molding. The proportions of the height and width are not balanced, and the result seems to squash down the second-story porch. In order to change the front and back porch roofs, the center dormers on both sides of the house were removed. The shutters also were removed, and remain in storage in the brick kitchen/quarters.

The early 20<sup>th</sup>-century small kitchen and entry porch off the main block's east side were removed. In its place, the Colemans built a large brick addition that connects to the main house by a hyphen and contains a library/family room on the first floor. The connector contains a kitchen and bathroom. During construction, the Colemans replicated the Flemish bond and water table found on the main block. The main level's windows on the north side of the addition are six-over-nine, double-hung sash, designed to agree with the originals in the house. The addition has an interior chimney and an extended entry way into the passage on its south side.

The original concealed staircase was not wide enough for the Coleman family. To accommodate their needs, part of the ceiling in the main floor center passage was removed, and a straight staircase to the second floor built. This required the removal of the center plaster medallion on the main passage ceiling. All of the original staircases are still in place, and two of them remain in use.

The main block's room placement has remained the same, with the main floor having a living room and dining room. The second floor has two bedrooms on either side of the center passage, and the bedroom within the projecting bay was changed to a large bathroom, keeping the fireplace. The attic contains bedrooms, and the basement is currently used for storage.

## Secondary Resources

### *Inventory*

- Entrance Gates, 1990s, non-contributing objects (2)
- Decorative Marker, 1990s, non-contributing object
- Springhouse, reconstructed 1980s-1990s, non-contributing structure
- Kitchen, early 19<sup>th</sup> century, contributing building
- Outbuilding site, early 19<sup>th</sup> century, contributing site
- Smokehouse, early 19<sup>th</sup> century, contributing structure
- Icehouse site, early 19<sup>th</sup> century, contributing site
- Garden, late 20<sup>th</sup> century, non-contributing site
- Waring family cemetery, early 19<sup>th</sup> century, contributing site

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

Coleman family cemetery, late 20<sup>th</sup> century, non-contributing site

The entrance gates at the north end of the domestic complex were constructed by the Colemans. They are built of brick and iron elements that were salvaged from the primary dwelling's porches and outbuildings. At the north end of the circular driveway, is a small stone marker with a brick base. The property's name, "Edenetta" is inscribed on a plaque set into the brick base's north side. The stone marker is a vaguely obelisk shape featuring foliated carving. All three are non-contributing objects as they postdate the property's period of significance.

During architectural surveys in 1969 and 1971, a springhouse, kitchen, dairy, frame shed, and smokehouse were documented. The springhouse had to be rebuilt after a tree fell on it in the last quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It is about 100 yards northeast of the domestic complex and is a small brick structure with a wood A-frame roof and an opening on the east side. The pump is gone and the spring covered with concrete, but the water still comes through. Almost entirely rebuilt with new materials, it is considered non-contributing.

Information about the domestic complex also comes from the 1940 publication of the Essex County Woman's Club, entitled, *Old Homes of Essex County*, which states in its description of Edenetta, "There is a two-story kitchen in the yard and three odd, square-shaped, brick buildings with pointed roofs." There may have been other outbuildings matching them on the west side of the rear lawn, which would have been consistent with Federal period style of creating balance in siting outbuildings, but if so, nothing of these remains. It would have been rare for the master of the house not to have had a separate office, although it is possible that this function was housed in the two-story brick kitchen on the second floor. There likewise is no known laundry or weaving/ sewing house. Any barns or stables that were likely to have existed have also vanished.

Today, the known outbuildings, forming a straight line off the east side of the rear lawn, consist of a two-story kitchen, a one-story smokehouse, and a third of unknown use (and no longer extant). The red bricks used in the outbuildings match those used for the house, so they were probably built at or about the same time. This date is supported by the finding of a brick in the kitchen dated 1816, now removed and in the possession of the owner.

The kitchen is a two-and-one-half-story, brick, side-gable building, built in 3:1 American bond with a brick water table. A contributing building, the kitchen is four bays wide, with two doors and two six-over-six double hung sash windows on the first story and four windows on the second story. Each window and door has a brick jack arch that is parged to simulate the appearance of stone. The second floor windows have a slight arch on the head of the sash, matching those in the dormers on the main house. There is a large interior chimney on the north gable end, and a smaller one on the south. It appears from the brickwork that most of the south wall, including the chimney, collapsed at some point and was rebuilt in 5:1 bond and the chimney replaced with a smaller brick flue. The north wall interior chimney still stands with fireplace openings still existing on the first and second floors. There are two rooms on each floor. A straight stair leads from an east side door to the second floor, with another to the attic. The interior was fully plastered, with trimmed windows, beaded baseboards, paneled doors and a

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

beaded chair rail on the second floor. The fairly fine finish work on the second floor of this building call into question whether or not this space was used as quarters for enslaved workers during the antebellum era. It may have been the plantation office space, with quarters for house slaves on the third floor. On the third floor, hand-hewn timbers are visible and the roof's structural system is exposed. There is not a ridge board at the top connecting the rafters, typical of early 19<sup>th</sup> century construction.

The kitchen is in poor condition, with a large crack over an inch wide that runs up two thirds of the north wall. The plaster is falling, lathe is damaged, and the building is used for storage. There are several holes and gaps between the brick gable ends and the roof-line which allow for the entrance of rainwater. Many different types of concrete have been used in repointing the exterior brick, leading to more damage. At some point a steel beam was put in as a support for the second floor. The brick floor has been covered by concrete.

South of the kitchen and smokehouse, a brick dairy and a frame shed were identified in 1969. The dairy was a square brick building with a pyramidal roof and a door with a brick jack arch centered on its east façade. In a 1971 photograph, the dairy's rear wall is shown to consist only of wood studs and interior horizontal sheathing and there is no evidence of the original brick wall. Immediately north of the dairy, the front gabled shed was clad with painted wood siding and corrugated metal roofing. A vehicular door was centered on the east gable end and the building is assumed to have been used for equipment storage. The dairy fell in and was removed before 1990 while the shed, now collapsed, was noted during a 1994 survey, and was removed at a later date. The site of these two resources is considered contributing.

The smokehouse, a contributing structure, is square with a tin-covered pyramidal roof. It is built of brick laid in Flemish bond with a water table similar to the kitchen. A wood finial remains at the roof peak. There are diamond designs in brick lattice work on the front, flanking each side of a central door. Two rows below the wood box cornice on the front (west) façade and the south wall are header-sized openings which, along with the brick lattice work, allow for ventilation. Like the kitchen, the smokehouse door has a brick jack arch that was originally parged. The brick work is in poor condition, and concrete repointing and covering has not helped its condition. The smokehouse's heavy wood door with a string latch and a cat hole is identical to the vertical board doors now present in the basement of the main house; the latter doors most likely were removed from the brick outbuilding that originally stood between the smokehouse and kitchen. The smokehouse door, of double-thickness, has wide vertical boards on the outside and wide horizontal boards on the interior, attached to each other with numerous hand forged nails. The interior beams and roof rafters are blackened from its original use as a smokehouse. More recently, a sliding double door was cut into the south wall and a concrete ramp added to allow the building to be used for the storage of yard equipment.

The remains of a probable icehouse is located in the woods about two hundred yards east of the outbuildings, near Popoman Creek. It is a contributing site, with bricks found around the perimeter in what appears to be a circular shape.

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

Immediately south of (behind) the primary dwelling is a late 20<sup>th</sup> century garden which is on axis with the main entrance on the dwelling's south (rear) elevation. The formal garden features a traditional rectangular plan with four quadrants planted with trees and edged with shrubs and a central focal feature composed of brick and concrete.

The cemetery of the Waring family is to the southwest side of house and is a contributing site. Only one side of a four foot-high-brick wall is left, and trees are growing within the burial ground. No tombstones have been found, but it is possible they have fallen, or been buried if they were tablets. It is highly doubtful that this family, as wealthy as they were, was not given tombstones. Probable burials would include Robert Payne Waring (2), Lucy Latane Waring, Robert Payne Waring (3), Eliza S.R. Waring, Robert Payne Waring (4), Lucy R. Waring, and Nancy Waring.<sup>4</sup> No formal archaeological investigation of the Waring cemetery has been conducted to date.

The modern cemetery for the Coleman family is about fifty yards to the south of the Waring family cemetery, on the west edge of the rear lawn. It is a non-contributing site as it postdates the property's period of significance.

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

---

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

ETHNIC HERITAGE: African American

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

Ca. 1800-1865

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

Ca, 1800

Ca, 1853

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Edenetta is significant at the local level under Criterion A in the area of Ethnic Heritage: African American due to its retention of an intact domestic complex and landscape features associated with the property's antebellum plantation history. These buildings and structures, as well as the agricultural fields, were shaped and used by the enslaved African Americans who worked here for decades thus making Edenetta an illustrative example of the wealth and productivity generated by an enslaved workforce. The property was both a business enterprise and family seat of two of Essex County's most prominent and long-established families, the Warings and the Baylors. Edenetta also is an important antebellum house in Essex County and is significant at the local level under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Built ca. 1800 and renovated ca. 1850, it is a fine example of both the original Federal style as well as the later Greek Revival style, with significant architectural features surviving from both periods. It is rare to find such pristine features as the mantels and plasterwork undamaged despite being over 150 years old. Edenetta also retains an intact early 19<sup>th</sup> century domestic complex and historic family cemetery. The period of significance is ca. 1800 through 1865, encompassing the house's date of original construction through the Greek Revival modifications and ending in 1865 when the Civil War abolished slavery.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

**Criterion A – Ethnic Heritage: African American**

Settlement in the Northern Neck of Virginia began in the 1630s and spilled into the Middle Peninsula in the 1650s, with Essex County formed out of Old Rappahannock County in 1692. The Rappahannock River bounds Essex on the east side, and over twenty creeks run eastward through the county to the river, four of them deep water. Occupacia, one of three creeks in the county to still bear its native name, is the northernmost of the deep water creeks. The lands along the river and Occupacia consist of large, level plains rising slowly to the west.

These river- and creek-fronting tracts began to be granted in the 1650s. Some of the earliest grants went to Thomas and Francis Gouldman, Robert Payne, Epaphroditus Lawson, the Meriwethers, the Mosleys, the Brookes, and Robert Beverley. These rich antediluvian flats, not as riddled with small creeks and gullies as was the land in the south end of the county, and together with the growing entrenchment of slavery, let early planters practice agriculture on a grander scale. Land- and slave-owners in the north end of the county acquired a greater share of Essex County wealth, allowing them to build grander houses. Blandfield, Mt. Pleasant, Elmwood, Lily Mount, Linden, Hawkin's, Glen Cairn, Brooke's Bank, and Edenetta were established in the mid-to late-18<sup>th</sup> century, and Poverty Ridge, Champlain, Rose Hill, Oakalona, Wheatland, Gray's, Rose Mont, Kinloch, Mt. Nebo, Cedar Mont, Springfield, and Paynefield in the early-to mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

The Occupacia area shifted from tobacco cultivation to mixed grain and corn after the American Revolution, shipping these crops to local markets at Norfolk and Baltimore rather than England. A consolidation of land by the powerful slave owners began because wealth begot wealth. With money from crops sold, they could buy more enslaved people, allowing them to have more land cleared and more crops planted, and to reap a higher profit, ad infinitum. In 1820, a sampling of Essex County's elite shows that the Garnett family held 6,200 acres, the Spindles 2,700 acres, William T. Brooke 1,800 acres, Robert Beverley 5,050 acres, and the Noels 2,000 acres. Robert Payne Waring (2), builder of Edenetta, held 8,165 acres in 1820, by both descent and purchase, making him one of the largest landowners in Essex County. To work his lands, Waring owned more than 500 enslaved African Americans, but it is not known how many of these people lived and worked at Edenetta versus other Waring's plantations.

Thomas Waring, ancestor to Robert Payne Waring (2), immigrated to Virginia ca. 1710. He married Elizabeth Gouldman, heir to both Thomas and Francis Gouldmans' many land grants. Their son Thomas married Elizabeth Payne, great granddaughter of Robert Payne and Elizabeth Lawson, the sole heir of Epaphroditus Lawson. Thomas and Elizabeth had at least fourteen children, their second son and heir being Robert Payne Waring.<sup>5</sup> He became the heir to the lands of Lawson, Payne, and the Gouldmans.

Robert Payne Waring (1) married three times, first to his first cousin Catherine Robinson. By her he had Robert Payne Waring (2), born 1778, Catherine, and Thomas Robinson Waring. He and his second wife, Ann Clements, née Lowry, had two sons. With his third wife, Sarah Gardner, he had three sons and two daughters. Nine of his ten children were living when he wrote his will, some of them very young.

Robert Payne Waring (2) married his wealthy second cousin Lucy Latane on 5<sup>th</sup> July 1800.<sup>6</sup> His father had given him a property called Maynards Swamp in 1789, although he did not take full possession of it until his father's death in 1799. This is where he built Edenetta.<sup>7</sup> Conscious of his wealth and social position in the county, and wanting to make a statement, he did not chose the old-fashioned formal Georgian style of neighboring Essex great houses, Blandfield (NRHP 1969; DHR #028-0005) and Brookes Bank (NRHP 1971; DHR #028-0007), but rather the newer Federal style, a refinement of the earlier Georgian. He may have been influenced by James Mercer Garnett's new mansion, Elmwood (NRHP 1970; DHR #028-0011), only a few miles away.<sup>8</sup> Waring and Garnett, both well educated, had access to northern newspapers and the most recent books on style and architecture, including Robert Adam's works.

Perhaps because his parents were first cousins, and he and his wife were second cousins, only three children are known to have been born to Robert and Lucy Waring. Robert Payne Waring (3) was born in 1801, Nancy was born in 1805 and died in 1810, and Lucy Latane Waring was born in 1814, and would marry Richard Baylor in 1834.

In 1820, Robert Payne Waring (3) married Maria Garnett, daughter of James Mercer Garnett of Elmwood. She died in 1822, and he married Eliza Stuart Robb in 1825. They had four children; Robert Payne Waring (4), William Lawson Waring, Lucy Robb Waring, and Thomas Robinson

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

Waring. Robert Payne Waring (3) seemed to fail in everything he touched, despite his father giving him Glen Cairn and constant loans.<sup>9</sup>

Robert Payne Waring's (2) wife, Lucy Latane, died the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 1838, and their only son, Robert Payne Waring (3) died suddenly in 1842, age 41. He left no will, and there is no bond, inventory, or account, indicating he held no property in his name.

Robert Payne Waring (2) did not live long after his son. At the time of his death in 1844, he held 15,061 acres in Essex County: the home tract of Edenetta, Glen Cairn, both Gouldmans, Kendalls, Laytons, Thomas Neck, Lawsons Neck, Paynes Island, White Oak swamp, Cavenaugh's, Greenfield, Garretts, Port Micou and Port Tobacco, and 2,544 acres in Westmoreland County: Leesville, Troy, Round Hill, and Bloomsbury. The bond for his estate was one million dollars.<sup>10</sup> Waring left a will directing that his estate both real and personal be divided in two parts, giving one part to his daughter Lucy W. Baylor, and the other to his widowed daughter-in-law Eliza Stuart Robb Waring and his grandchildren. Because his grandchildren were still under age, the entire estate went to chancery. His holdings of over 17,000 acres, the associated improvements, all associated goods and equipment, as well as an enslaved workforce of 685 African Americans, were divided in half by Commissioners between Robert Baylor, by right of his wife Lucy Latane Waring Baylor (as married women could not own property in their own name at this time), and the widowed Eliza Stuart Robb Waring and her four young children. The latter estate thus was further subdivided between Eliza Waring and her children. Lucy Robb Waring received Paynes Island, Thomas Neck, and part of White Oak swamp, and, in the tenor of the era, an enslaved workforce of 81 people without regard for their own familial relationships. Robert Payne Waring (4) received Lawsons Neck, part of Kendalls, part of Gouldmans, half of Bloomsbury, 125 acres of Edenetta, and a workforce comprised of 66 enslaved African Americans. William Lawson Waring got the rest of Kendalls, half of Bloomsbury, 125 acres of Edenetta, and a similarly sized enslaved workforce of 65 African Americans. Thomas Robinson Waring received 650 acres of Gouldmans, and 329 acres of Edenetta with the house, and a total of 71 enslaved workers. Their mother, Eliza, received Glen Cairn, 50 acres of Edenetta, Troy, Round Hill, part of Gouldmans, Payne's Island, Lawsons Neck, both Gouldmans, Kendalls (including Laytons and the Fishery), Glen Cairn, and 68 enslaved people. These divisions were done with an eye to equivalent values, rather than even numbers, with both the real estate and the human beings held in bondage assessed a monetary value.<sup>11</sup>

The 1850 census shows all four children living with their mother at Edenetta. Eliza Waring is given as age fifty-one, Robert Payne twenty-three, William Lawson twenty-one, Lucy Robb nineteen, and Thomas Robinson eighteen. Each of them held real estate to the value of \$40,000. Only three people in the county held more: Robert M.T. Hunter at \$50,000, Beven Pitts at \$68,000, and their uncle Robert Baylor at \$150,000.<sup>12</sup> This did not include the wealth represented by their respective enslaved workforces, whose individual and collective labors further enriched these families. According to the 1850 slave schedules, the five family members residing at Edenetta in 1850 still owned the 351 slaves collectively inherited from the estate of Robert Payne Waring (2) after his death in 1844. It is not known how many of these enslaved

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

persons lived at Edenetta since Waring gave portions of several plantations to each of these five heirs and it is likely that the slaves were dispersed among the various land holdings. However, given that Edenetta was Waring's place of residence and his wife and four of his heirs continued to live there, it is highly probably that a considerable number of enslaved people resided at Edenetta.

The Greek Revival alterations to Edenetta were done between 1853 and 1861. These dates are indicated because a plat of Edenetta done in 1845, just after the death of Robert Payne Waring (2), does not show the great porch on the house's south elevation. The house and 329 acres of Edenetta were willed to his grandson, Thomas Robinson Waring, who did not come of age and receive the property until 1853. He married Ella Tayloe, daughter of Charles Tayloe of the Octagon House in Washington, D.C. With their shared wealth, youth, and social ambitions, they are the ones most likely responsible for the remodeling of the house since the architectural modifications done are typical of the 1850s period. Wanting to remove the outdated Federal features, they opted for the newer Greek Revival style to show off their house. As his father may have been influenced by the new Federal style of Elmwood, Thomas Robinson may have been influenced by Muscoe R.H. Garnett's remodeling of Elmwood in an Italianate style.<sup>13</sup>

Another potential influence on Thomas Robinson and Ella Tayloe Waring's choices for Edenetta's modifications may have been the recently completed and most grand dwelling of his Aunt Lucy Waring Baylor, who with her husband, Richard Baylor, built nearby Kinloch (DHR #028-0020; no longer extant) beginning in the late 1840s. Designed by Baltimore architect Robert Cary Long, Kinloch's design included ornate decorative iron balustrades and rails on the exterior, a stately Greek Revival portico, mantels of Egyptian and Italian marble, ornate plasterwork on the ceilings, and silver-plate door hardware, all features similarly added at Edenetta. At its time of construction, ca. 1847-1848, Kinloch was one the grandest examples of Greek Revival architecture in rural Virginia and most certainly in Essex County. The house was completely destroyed by fire in 1948, however, earlier photographs illustrate the similarities between it and the ca. 1853 modifications to Edenetta.

The 1860 census shows Eliza Waring, age sixty, was worth \$18,000 in real estate and \$38,000 in personal estate (a figure that, at the time, would have included any enslaved people she held), living at Glen Cairn with Robert Payne Waring (4), age thirty-two, who held \$30,000 in real estate and \$53,000 in personal estate, and Lucy, age twenty-four [sic], who held \$32,000 in real estate and \$47,000 in personal estate. William, age thirty, held \$30,000 in real estate and \$61,800 in personal estate. He had married Rosalie Tayloe in 1858, and they were living at Malvern. Thomas Robinson and Ella Waring were living at Edenetta; he held \$38,000 in real estate and \$87,840 in personal estate, indicating them to be still quite wealthy on the eve of the Civil War. The considerable differences between the value of real estate versus personal estate also is illustrative of the economic situation of most Southern land- and slave-owners at the time, as the majority of their wealth was tied up in human workers who were exploited to the fullest extent of their ability to work, rather than in the tangible real property where their slaves labored year round. In 1860 the census slave schedule records 103 enslaved persons under the ownership of

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

Thomas Robinson Waring. Although he may have still retained some ownership in other Waring lands, it is likely that many of his slaves resided at Edenetta.

Similarly, the 1860 census shows a total population of around 11,000 in Essex County. Just 3,000 people were categorized as white, while 1,000 were classified as “free blacks,” and 6,000 people were recorded as slaves, which exemplifies the local economy’s heavy reliance on slavery. Contrary to other Northern Neck counties that had experienced a modest decline in slave populations since 1790, Essex County’s slave population had increased from 60% of the population in 1790 to 64% in 1860, with Richard Baylor, son-in-law of Edenetta’s builder, thought to be the largest slave holder in the county.

When the Civil War began in April 1861, there were around 1,000 white men between ages 12 and 50 in Essex County. Of these, 750+ served in Virginia companies, most in the local units of the 55<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry and the 9<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry.<sup>14</sup> All three of the Warings served; Robert Payne as an Adjutant since he had several years at the Virginia Military Institute, Thomas Robinson as a private in Company F, 9<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry, and William L. as 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant in Company F, 9<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry.

On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation freed all enslaved Americans throughout the Confederate states. Even prior to this, many enslaved people had emancipated themselves by going to Union-held territory where, thanks to Union General Benjamin Butler’s May 1861 “contrabands decision,” they were recognized as free. Thus, when the Confederacy lost the war, the Warings and thousands of other former slave-holders came home to vast acres of land but no enslaved workforce to work it any longer.

Eliza S.R. Waring died intestate in or around November 1865, just six months after the war ended. The bond for the administration of her estate was \$6,000, reflecting the removal of her enslaved workforce and a steep decline in the value of her real estate. Such losses occurred throughout the former Confederate states and, combined with the physical damage caused by four years of warfare, destroyed the South’s centuries-old, slavery-based economy.

The Waring family buried Eliza in a \$75.00 coffin. Their land became a burden to them, its value dropping from an average of \$20.00/ acre in 1859, with Edenetta at \$3,000, to \$10.00/acre with Edenetta at \$1,500, although the tax only decreased from \$.60 to .50/ hundred. Selling the land locked in their loss but they also had little means to pay workers to farm it, and the Warings likewise struggled to pay the taxes. By this time, Robert Payne Waring (4), Lucy Waring, and their cousin, Ellen, lived at Glen Cairn, while William and Rosalie Waring lived at Malvern, and Thomas Robinson and Ella Waring were living at Edenetta by 1870.

Thomas Robinson Waring seemed to be struggling the most financially, possibly from his prewar expenditures on remodeling Edenetta. He sold his interest in his mother’s estate to his brothers in 1865 for \$5,000. In the late 1860s, a chancery suit was filed against him for a debt of \$16,480.90 by McConkey and Parr, a Baltimore mercantile firm. He had recorded a deed of trust in 1865 to secure this bond to R.J. Capon, that Capon then assigned to McConkey and Parr. This money

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

may have been for the 1850s renovations to the house, since much of the material would have had to come through Baltimore. No vouchers are found in the suit, however. His brothers and sister were brought into the suit because of their intermingled real estate and financial dealings. Because of this suit Edenetta (329 acres), White Oak swamp (45 acres), and Gouldmans (677 acres) were put to auction in 1868, the description reading

About 1000 acres of highly improved and productive land... together with all the improvements consisting of a large and commodious BRICK DWELLING, beautifully painted and plastered, with marble mantles; and a large size Barn, some five or six stories high...a Spring of the finest water with a handsome Springhouse...within a few yards of the Dwelling. The improvements alone are worth at least \$10,000...<sup>15</sup>

Robert Payne Waring (4) bought the Edenetta tract, livestock, and most of the household furniture for \$2,611.10, but he had the deed made out to his sister, Lucy Robb Waring. Thomas Robinson and Ella Waring moved to King George to live with her mother at Shiloh. He died there in 1880 and was buried at Powhatan. Lucy Robb Waring died intestate in 1887. As her sole heirs, Robert Payne Waring (4) and William Lawson inherited the farm. Robert Payne Waring (4) died in 1896, leaving a will devising Edenetta to his brother William, after giving 125 acres of it to Esther Smith, a former slave held by the family. Smith lived on this property for years and her descendants live there to this day.

William Lawson Waring's wife, Rosalie Tayloe, died in 1872. He lived at Edenetta with his brother and sister until their deaths, and then lived alone until his death in March 1900. He was the last of this line of Warings. He left no will, and the last of the Waring property; Island Farm, Kendalls, Laytons, and Edenetta, were subject to a Chancery suit between his Baylor and Robb cousins. Put to auction in 1901, Edenetta and 265 acres were bought for \$1,500 by Henry Latane Baylor, youngest son of Richard and Lucy Waring Baylor, which made him the great-nephew of Robert Payne Waring (2), who had built Edenetta, and first cousin of Thomas Robinson Waring, the remodeler of Edenetta ca.1853.

Henry Latane Baylor died in 1930, of a fractured skull after a fall down the second floor enclosed staircase. He left Edenetta to his wife, Virginia Barron Baird Waring, and children. His son, Robert Waring Baylor, lived there until his death in 1962, leaving it to his wife Margaret Jane Banks

The remaining heirs sold the house and 265 acres in 1984 to Dr. Robert Y. Coleman and his wife.<sup>16</sup> They have put the land into the Coleman Trust and under a Virginia conservation easement in 2009.

Edenetta thus was associated for centuries with Essex County's slavery-based agricultural economy, which generated great wealth for a select few families during the antebellum era. The property was home to generations of the Waring and Baylor families and, Thomas Waring's children and grandchildren married into most of the other major families of Tidewater Virginia:

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

Cocke, Robinson, Lewis, Latane, Temple, Baylor, Harwood, Ball, Ware, and Garnett. The Waring family's economic and social connections made Edenetta an important center of hospitality throughout the slave-owning planter-merchant families of the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula. The property's preservation through to the present provides a physical record of the hundreds of enslaved African Americans whose labor built the domestic landscape that still survives and is a testament to the wealth they generated.

### **Criterion C - Architecture**

Edenetta is locally significant under Criterion C as an excellent representative of a Tidewater plantation. Originally a Federal style house, built ca. 1800, the primary dwelling underwent significant remodeling in the 1850s, adding Greek Revival and Italianate porches and interior decoration. Meanwhile, the early 19<sup>th</sup> century brick outbuildings were retained and their materials and workmanship illustrate their connection to the house's original construction. The dwelling's Federal and Greek Revival styles, the extent of its intact, significant architectural elements, and its Port Royal plan are character-defining features. The highly ornate marble mantels and plaster ceilings are, for the most part, in perfect condition. As a result, Edenetta has high integrity of design, workmanship, materials, and feeling. With just over 261 acres, now heavily wooded, and the continuing agricultural character of the north end of Essex County Edenetta retains its integrity of location, setting, and association as well.

As noted above, the primary dwelling at Edenetta is comparable to other Essex County early 19<sup>th</sup> century plantation houses, including Nanzatico (NRHP 1969; DHR #048-0015) and Belle Grove (NRHP 1973; DHR #048-0027) in King George County, and the Gray and Brockenbrough houses in the nearby Port Royal Historic District (NRHP 1970; DHR#284-0047), all of which were constructed between ca. 1790 and ca. 1810. Similar to Elmwood (NRHP 1970; DHR #028-0011), Edenetta's main house was built ca. 1800 in the Federal style and remodeled in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century to feature Greek Revival and Italianate styles. Edenetta, built at a time when tobacco wealth was declining and the glory days of agricultural prosperity had subsided in the Northern Neck area, stands as one the grandest plantation homes built in Essex County at the turn of the nineteenth century. The Waring family's fortunes right up to the Civil War is reflected in both the original architecture of Edenetta and the subsequent remodeling in ca. 1853.

### **Archaeological Potential**

Edenetta has high potential for retaining intact archaeological sites, but to date professional investigations of the property have been very limited. In 1994, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources conducted an investigation at Edenetta and submitted it to the Department of Forestry's Forest Stewardship Program. The field inspection of Edenetta identified the following cultural features: two icehouses, a cemetery, a springhouse, a dam, a collapsed frame building, and a windmill.

According to a very basic site plan drawn during the 1994 inspection, the two icehouses were located east of the domestic complex along Popoman Creek. Only one of these sites has been re-

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

identified as part of the nomination project. The brick springhouse was heavily damaged by a fallen tree and reconstructed, making it a non-contributing resource. The frame outbuilding is known to have stood south of the brick kitchen and next to the now-vanished brick dairy, north of the extant brick smokehouse. The windmill was located northwest of the domestic complex and no trace of it has been found.

Additionally, in the northern section of the property's 261 acres, an earthen mound approximately 6 feet wide, 4 feet high and several hundred feet long, with a ninety-degree angle, was identified. Oral tradition identifies this feature as an antebellum property line berm constructed by slave labor.

The dam and the earthen berm's location were not mapped in 1994 and it is not known if either resource is extant today.

None of these resources were subject to more than visual inspection so their archaeological information potential and integrity is not known. However, together with the extant domestic complex, rebuilt springhouse, and icehouse site along Popoman Creek, the cultural features identified in 1994 suggest a high potential for historic-period archaeology on the property.

Furthermore, other sites associated with Edenetta's antebellum enslaved population of African Americans are anticipated to remain on the property. A cemetery and various quarters sites are highly likely to exist given that, at the time of his death in 1844, Robert Payne Waring II, builder of Edenetta, owned 17,000 acres in Essex County and held 685 enslaved African Americans. Of this, his grandson, Thomas Robinson Waring inherited 329 acres, including Edenetta's house and domestic complex, as well as 71 enslaved people. The extant early 19<sup>th</sup> century kitchen building is believed to have included quarters for enslaved workers for at least part of its history. The property's intact domestic complex also dates to the antebellum era and thus has direct associations with the African Americans who lived and worked here. The undisturbed character of the complex suggests high potential for intact cultural deposits associated with these individuals.

Depressions about the large yards surrounding the house could be the sites of vanished stables and other types of barns and carriage houses. The Warings were well known for horse racing and breeding. However, no documentation for resources such as these has yet been found.

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Baylor, Robert Waring. 2015. Private Interview

Census Records, Essex County, 1850 and 1860, including special schedules: Slaves.  
Library of Virginia. Richmond, Virginia.

Derieux, Suzanne P. and Pippenger, Wesley E. 2011. *Essex County, Virginia, Cemeteries. Volume I-County Church Cemeteries*. Barbour Printing, Tappahannock, Virginia.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Essex County, Virginia, Cemeteries. Volume III- Private Cemeteries*, unpublished.

Essex County Circuit Court House.  
Wills 1692-2000, Deeds 1692-2000  
Land Tax Records  
Order Books 15-51  
Chancery Suits 1750-1913

Hoskins, Mrs. J.T., et al. 1940. *Old Homes of Essex County*. Essex County Woman's Club. Colonial Press, Fredericksburg, VA.

Krick, Robert K. 1982. *9<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry*. H.E. Howard, Inc. Lynchburg, Va.

McAlester, Virginia. 2015. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. Alfred A. Knoff, New York, N.Y.

Nugent, Nell Marian. 1969. *Cavaliers and Pioneers, Volume I 16 -1665*. Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, Maryland.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2004. *Cavaliers and Pioneers, Volume II 1666-1695*. Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.

O Sullivan, Richard. 1989. *55<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry*. H.E. Howard, Lynchburg, Va.

Virginia Department of Historic Resources. Virginia Department of Forestry Forest Stewardship Program. Cultural Resources Component. The Robert Coleman Tract. Essex County, Virginia. December, 1994.

Waring, William. 1985. *Thomas Waring the Immigrant*. Self-published.

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

Warner, Charles Willard Hoskins. 1971. *Hoskins of Virginia and Related Families*.  
Tappahannock, Virginia.

Warner, Thomas. 1965. *Old Rappahannock County, Virginia*. Pauline Pierce Warner,  
Tappahannock, Virginia.

Wells, Camille. 2008. Stratford Hall Symposium: Cultural Landscapes of the Northern  
Neck, Virginia's Colonial Mansions: Nanzatico.

Wolf, Thomas A., editor. 2011. *Historic Sites in Virginia's Northern Neck and Essex  
County*. Preservation Virginia, Northern Neck Branch. Warsaw, Virginia.

Wright, Sue. 1995. *Essex County, Virginia. 1850 U.S. Census*. Transcribed. Poplar  
Grove Press, Arkadelphia, Arkansas

\_\_\_\_\_. 1995. *Essex County, Virginia. 1860 U.S. Census*. Transcribed. Poplar Grove  
Press, Arkadelphia, Arkansas

---

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** DHR No. 028-0010

---

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** 261.31

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 38.071650 | Longitude: -77.029750 |
| 2. Latitude: 38.069890 | Longitude: -77.020390 |
| 3. Latitude: 38.058030 | Longitude: -77.016960 |
| 4. Latitude: 38.058870 | Longitude: -77.019920 |
| 5. Latitude: 38.060940 | Longitude: -77.025840 |
| 6. Latitude: 38.057460 | Longitude: -77.027480 |
| 7. Latitude: 38.057350 | Longitude: -77.028380 |
| 8. Latitude: 38.064580 | Longitude: -77.028030 |
| 9. Latitude: 38.066240 | Longitude: -77.031380 |

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |          |           |           |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The historic boundary encompasses all of Tax Parcel #12 28 as recorded by Essex County. The true and correct boundary is shown on the attached Tax Parcel Map and Location Map. Edenetta is bounded on the north by U.S. Route 17, on the east by the Smith and Fortune properties, on the south by Popoman swamp, which is a branch of Occupacia creek, and on the west by the Gardner property. Both the Smith and Gardner properties were formerly part of Edenetta.

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are from a 1984 plat of the property, following the same lines as set forth in the 1903 Chancery suit, Baylor vs. Robb, which took its lines from the 1845 division of the property. The boundaries thus encompass the early 19<sup>th</sup> century primary dwelling and domestic complex as well as 261 acres that have been continuously associated with Edenetta since the late 18<sup>th</sup> century.

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: S.P. Derieux  
organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number: P.O. Box 2181  
city or town: Tappahannock state: Virginia zip code: 22560  
e-mail: medwde4@hotmail.com  
telephone: 804-443-3538  
date: March 1, 2016

---

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

**Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

**Photo Log**

**The following information is common to all photographs**

**Name of Property:** Edenetta  
**Location:** Essex County, Virginia  
**DHR File:** Number: 028-0010

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

**Date:** February 8<sup>th</sup> 2015, except as noted below  
**Photographer:** S.P. Derieux, except as noted below

Photo 1 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0001  
View: Edenetta, from entrance gates  
Photographer: Dovetail CRG, May 2013

Photo 2 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0002  
View: Edenetta, with decorative marker in foreground  
Photographer: Dovetail CRG, May 2013

Photo 3 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0003  
View: Edenetta, north facade

Photo 4 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0004  
View: Edenetta, view of front porch  
Photographer: Dovetail CRG, May 2013

Photo 5 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0005  
View: Edenetta, detail of front entry  
Photographer: Dovetail CRG, May 2013

Photo 6 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0006  
View: Edenetta, south elevation and garden

Photo 7 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0007  
View: Edenetta, main passage, new stair and plaster trim

Photo 8 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0008  
View: Edenetta, Florentine mantle, West room

Photo 9 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0009  
View: Edenetta, Egyptian marble mantle, East room

Photo 10 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0010  
View: Edenetta, South lawn with Coleman family cemetery in far right background

Photo 11 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0011  
View: Edenetta, Kitchen, looking southeast from corner of primary dwelling  
Photographer: Dovetail CRG, May 2013

Photo 12 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0012  
View: Kitchen, looking southeast

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

Photo 13 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0013  
View: Smokehouse, looking east

Photo 14 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0014  
View: Springhouse, looking northwest

Photo 15 of 15: VA\_Essex County\_Edenetta\_0015  
View: Waring family cemetery, looking west

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Stratford Hall Symposium: Cultural Landscapes of the Northern Neck: Nanzatico, King George County. Camille Wells, 2008. All of these houses are on the Landmarks list, all applications available online at the VDHR website.

<sup>2</sup> This spatial arrangement reflected a bygone tradition of keeping unknown or unwelcome visitors in the hall, while welcome visitors were allowed into the more intimate “company parlor.”

<sup>3</sup> The inventory done for the sale of the house in 1868 supports this description of the interior spatial arrangement.

<sup>4</sup> Rosalie Tayloe Waring and Thomas Robinson Waring are at Powhatan. It is not known where William Lawson is buried. The Edenetta Baylors are at St.Paul’s P.E. Church. All of the Baylors buried at Kinlock are still there, but their monuments were moved to St Paul’s.

<sup>5</sup> There were four Robert Payne Warings in a row. While they never called themselves anything except Sr. and Jr., the numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4 are inserted after a name for clarity. The eldest son, Thomas, was not competent, and his father asked Robert Payne to “give him a genteel living”. Whether the problem was physical or mental is not known.

<sup>6</sup> All dates are from the Latane family Bible, held by the Virginia Historical Society. Thomas Waring, father of Robert Payne Waring (1) was brother to Francis Gouldman Waring. Francis= daughter Ann married William Latane, their daughter was Lucy Latane, making her second cousin to Robert Payne Waring (2). Lucy would bring 19+ slaves and much furniture and household goods to the marriage.

<sup>7</sup> Many sources give the date of building as 1828, but the 1820 land tax records, the first year buildings were included, show buildings worth \$10,000 on a 1785 acre tract, that included Edenetta, Glen Cairn, and Gouldman=s. Only a stylish new house would bring the evaluation up

Edenetta  
Name of Property

Essex County, VA  
County and State

to that amount. Blandfield's buildings, house et als, were given at \$6000. Waring did not seem to have ever purchased a Mutual Assurance Policy, and the company stopped insuring buildings out of townships in 1820.

<sup>8</sup> Many sources give Elmwood as being built by Muscoe Garnett for his son, James Mercer Garnett in 1774. James Mercer was born in 1770, and houses of this size and style are not built for infants. Considering the exterior is Federal, not Georgian, it is far more likely Elmwood was built for James Mercer Garnett's marriage in 1794.

<sup>9</sup> There are a few letters of Robert Payne Waring (3) in the Waring – Baylor papers at the V.H.S. In one telling letter to his friend Robert Goolrick in Fredericksburg, he berates Goolrick for writing his father to ask for payment of the money he owed Goolrick.

<sup>10</sup> The economic power of one million dollars in 2012 money would be \$948,000,000,000.00. This bond was executed by Robert Baylor with no securities. This was the largest bond ever executed in Essex until the late twentieth century.

<sup>11</sup> Waring's holdings also included 60 horses, 94 mules, one jack, 743 cattle, 199 oxen, 612 hogs and pigs, and 433 sheep.

<sup>12</sup> Robert Baylor and wife Lucy, ages 57 and 47 in 1860, had ten children; Alexander W., Lucy Latane, Robert Payne, Mary Garnett, Elizabeth Payne, Harriett Rowzee, Helen Stanley, Richard Jr., Catherine Brooke, and Henry Latane Baylor. Baylor held \$390,000 in real estate and \$401,630 in personal estate, making him the wealthiest man in Essex, and one of the wealthiest men in Virginia.

<sup>13</sup> M.R.H. Garnett added an Italianate stair tower to Elmwood in 1852, and did other interior work. Most of his changes have been removed.

<sup>14</sup> O'Sullivan, Richard, *55<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry*, 1989, and Krick, Robert K., *9<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry*, and 1860 Census. Due to the inaccuracy of both the C.S.A. records and the census, figures are approximate.

<sup>15</sup> A barn of this size would be impossible to build or to use. If it had been built into the hill on the south side of the house, it could have been three, perhaps four stories. This is probably hyperbole on the part of the agent.

<sup>16</sup> This figure of 265 acres was from the 1903 survey. The current figure is 261.8 acres, the loss due to Highway 17 being widened to four lanes in the 1960s, but not deducted from the acreage.



LOCATION MAP

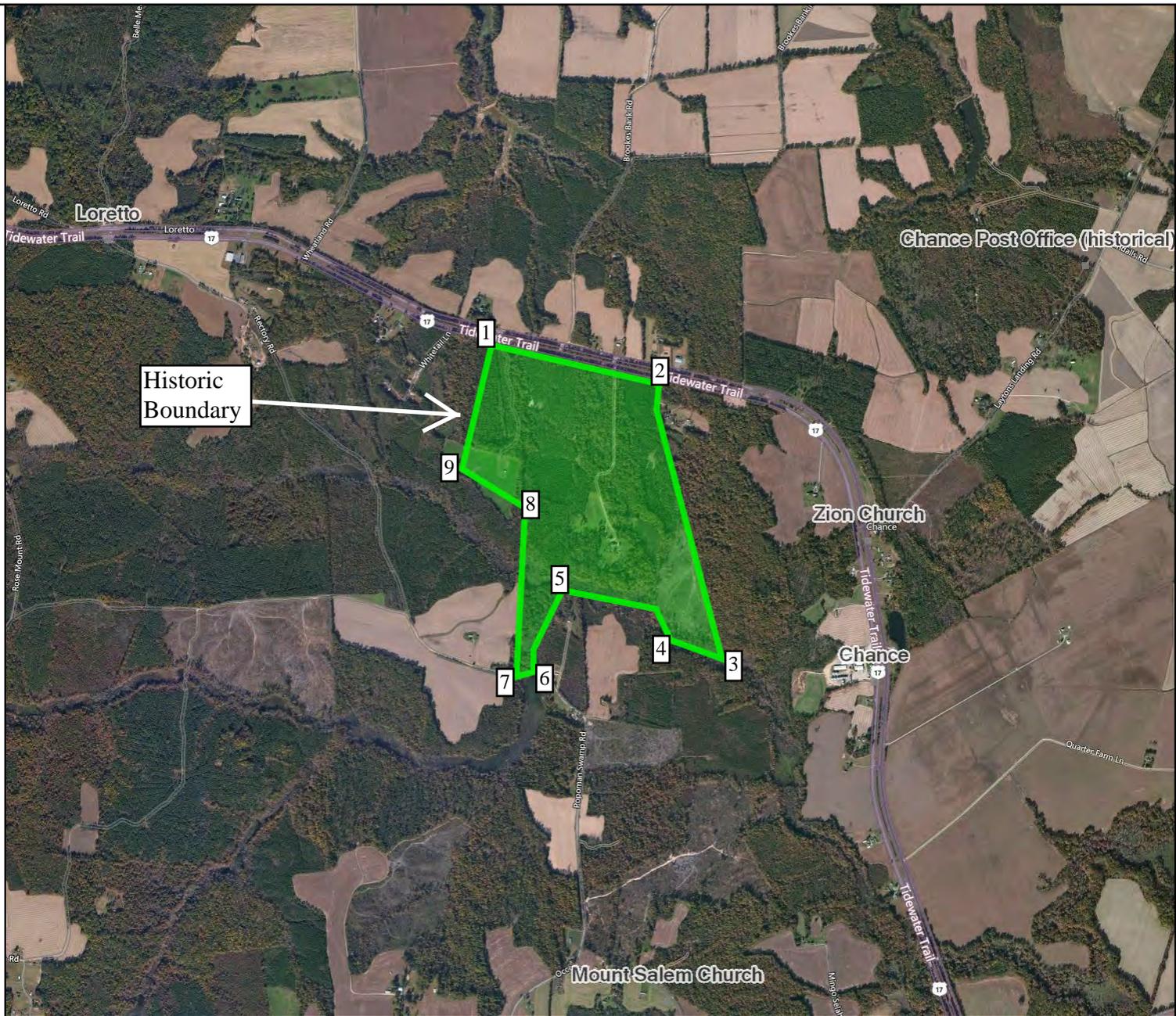
Edenetta

Essex County, VA

DHR No. 028-0010

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

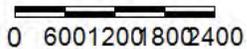
- 1. Latitude: 38.071650  
Longitude: -77.029750
- 2. Latitude: 38.069890  
Longitude: -77.020390
- 3. Latitude: 38.058030  
Longitude: -77.016960
- 4. Latitude: 38.058870  
Longitude: -77.019920
- 5. Latitude: 38.060940  
Longitude: -77.025840
- 6. Latitude: 38.057460  
Longitude: -77.027480
- 7. Latitude: 38.057350  
Longitude: -77.028380
- 8. Latitude: 38.064580  
Longitude: -77.028030
- 9. Latitude: 38.066240  
Longitude: -77.031380



Historic Boundary



Feet



1:36,112 / 1"=3,009 Feet

Title: Edenetta

Date: 7/27/2016

*DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.*

*Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.*



SKETCH MAP/ PHOTO KEY

Edenetta

Essex County, VA

DHR No. 028-0010

List of Resources:

Entrance Gates (non-contributing objects [2])

Decorative Marker (non-contributing object)

Primary Dwelling (contributing building)

Springhouse (non-contributing structure)

Kitchen (contributing building)

Outbuilding site (contributing site)

Smokehouse (contributing structure)

Icehouse site (contributing site)

Waring family cemetery (contributing site)

Coleman family cemetery (non-contributing site)

Garden (non-contributing site)

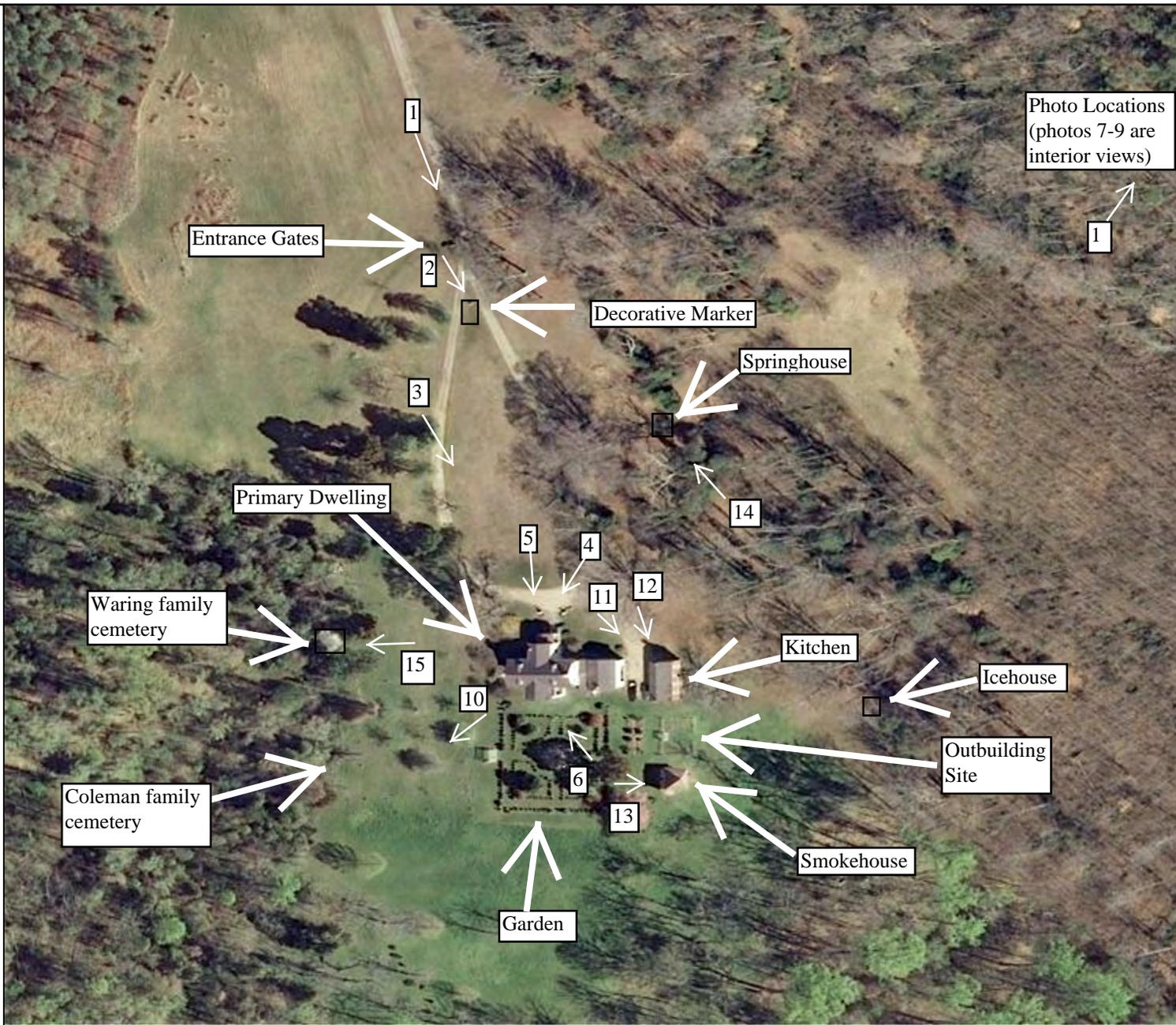


Photo Locations (photos 7-9 are interior views)

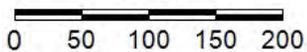
Title: Edenetta Aerial View

Date: 7/27/2016

DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.

Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.

Feet



1:2,257 / 1"=188 Feet

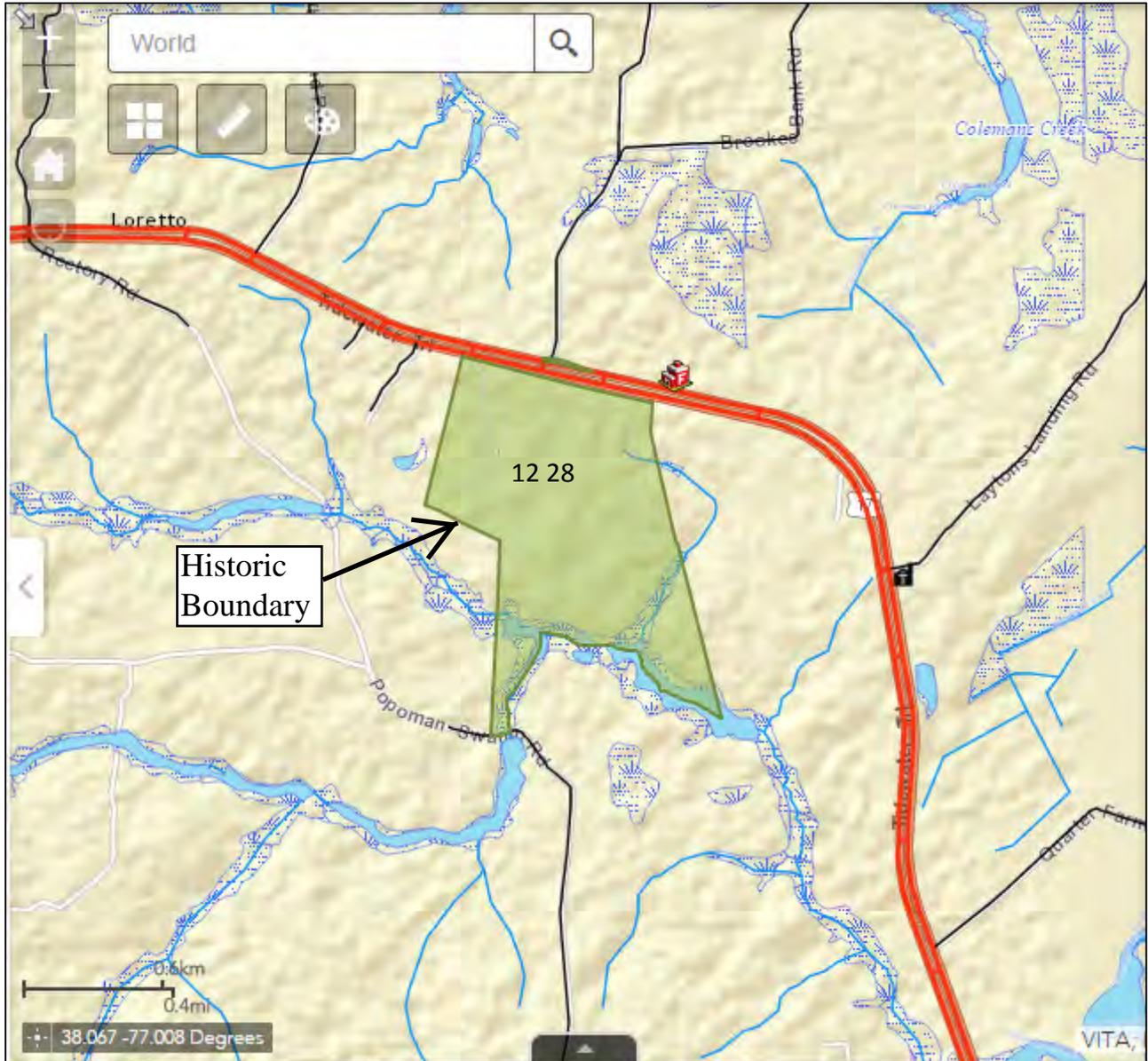
# TAX PARCEL MAP

Edenetta

Essex County, VA

DHR No. 028-0010

Parcel No. 12 28



Source:

Essex County GIS Webmap

<http://essex-virginia.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=91a67629fee24202a27ef6df878e24bb>