



PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FORM (PIF) for INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

Note: PIFs are prepared by applicants and evaluated by DHR staff and the State Review Board based on information known at the time of preparation. Recommendations concerning PIFs are subject to change if new information becomes available.

DHR No. (to be completed by DHR staff) 122-0118

1. General Property Information

Property name: Fox Hall

Property address: 1400 Halstead Ave.

City or Town: Norfolk

Zip code: 23502

Name of the Independent City or County where the property is located: Norfolk

Category of Property (choose only one of the following):

Building X Site _____ Structure _____ Object _____

2. Physical Aspects

Acreage: Approx. 1/2 acre

Setting (choose only one of the following):

Urban X Suburban _____ Town _____ Village _____ Hamlet _____ Rural _____

Briefly describe the property’s overall location and setting, including any notable landscape features:

Fox Hall is located on the northeast side of Norfolk. The property is on Halstead Ave., approximately 500 feet south of East Princess Anne Road (a historical thoroughfare from Norfolk to Princess Anne County). The Fox Hall tract originally extended further south to the Eastern Branch of the Elizabeth River. It is sited on land formerly in Norfolk County that was later annexed by the City of Norfolk.

See Fox Hall Location and Aerial Maps

3. Architectural Description

Architectural Style(s): Eastern Virginia vernacular, story and a half, brick dwelling

If the property was designed by an architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other professional, please list here: _____

If the builder is known, please list here: Ann Thelaball (undertaker unknown)

Date of construction (can be approximate): circa 1725-30

Narrative Description (Please do not exceed one page in describing the property):

Briefly describe the property's general characteristics, such as its current use (and historic use if different), as well as the primary building or structure on the property (such as a house, store, mill, factory, depot, bridge, etc.). Include the materials and method(s) of construction, physical appearance and condition (exterior and interior), and any additions or other major alterations.

Fox Hall is a private dwelling that has been continually occupied for nearly 300 years. It is the oldest house remaining in Norfolk. Fox Hall is a brick structure laid on the north and south elevations in Flemish bond and in Flemish and English bonds on the east and west ends. A two-story frame addition was added on the southwest side in the late 19th-early 20th centuries by John L. Roper. A five-year, strictly evidence-based restoration has recently been completed of Fox Hall, inside and out.



Fox Hall Before Restoration



Fox Hall After Restoration

See Photos of House & Details

In a bullet list, include any outbuildings or secondary resources or major landscape features (such as barns, sheds, dam and mill pond, storage tanks, scales, railroad spurs, etc.), including their condition and their estimated construction dates.

- Hand-dug, brick-lined well; excellent condition; still watered; probably early 19th century, but possibly earlier.



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- Fox Hall Well is located approximately 60 feet south of southwest corner of original house.
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-
-
-
-

4. Property's History and Significance (Please do not exceed one page)

Briefly explain the property's historic importance, such as significant events, persons, and/or families associated with the property.

If the property is important for its architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, or other aspects of design, please include a brief explanation of this aspect.

Ann Thelaball inherited the property upon which Fox Hall sits from the estate of her father, James Thelaball. Her brother, Francis Thelaball and his son, built a similar, but smaller house, now known as the Lynnhaven House in adjoining Princess Anne County (now Virginia Beach). There are two additional brick houses in nearby Virginia Beach that are related to Fox Hall and Lynnhaven House. They are Thoroughgood House and Weblin Place.

There are too many brickwork and construction similarities among Lynnhaven House, Thoroughgood House, Weblin Place, and Fox Hall to be coincidences. The same undertaker must have been involved in the construction of all of these houses in the circa 1720-30 timeframe.

While Fox Hall was initially conceived with a hall-kitchen floorplan like Lynnhaven House, it was actually constructed with a hall-central passage-kitchen floorplan. This was not a later alteration but a change order during early construction. Evidence for this change is in the floor framing, flooring, plaster lath, and in the asymmetrical placement of the front and rear doors hard against the passage-hall wall.

The most notable interior features of Fox Hall are the large hall and kitchen fireplaces.

Across the front of the house on the north side below the kick eave and above the door and windows, there is decorative "hounds tooth" brickwork, a rare feature in Virginia architecture.

The owner of Fox Hall at the time of construction was Ann Thelaball, who married James Lowery and later married William Ivy. The Fox Hall property subsequently passed through ownership of numerous Norfolk notables including: Thomas Talbot, Elizabeth Boush, Alexander Tunstall, Moses Myers II, Henry Van Wyck, Josiah Porter, J. H. Cofer, and John L. Roper.

See Photos of House & Details

Please list all sources of information used to research the history of the property, such as deeds, census and tax records, and/or published articles and books. (It is not necessary to attach lengthy articles or family genealogies to this form.)

- See the 19-article series on Fox Hall published on the Edenton Historical Commission website under Decorative Arts/Architecture at: www.ehcnc.org

5. Property Ownership (Check as many categories as apply):

Private: X Public\Local _____ Public\State _____ Public\Federal _____

Current Legal Owner(s) of the Property (If the property has more than one owner, please list each below or on an additional sheet.)

name/title: Fox Hall Property Holding LLC

Susan L. Sutherland, Owner

street & number: 185 Walnut Road

city or town: Kilmarnock state: VA zip code: 22482

e-mail: susansuther@outlook.com

telephone: 804-642-3885

Legal Owner's Signature:



Date: 30 April 2024

• • *Signature required for processing all applications.* • •

In the event of corporate ownership, you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person.

Contact person:

Susan L Sutherland, Owner

Daytime Telephone: 804-642-3885

Applicant Information (Individual completing form if other than legal owner of property)

name/title:

Jim Melchor

Restoration Manager

1218 N. Fairwater Drive

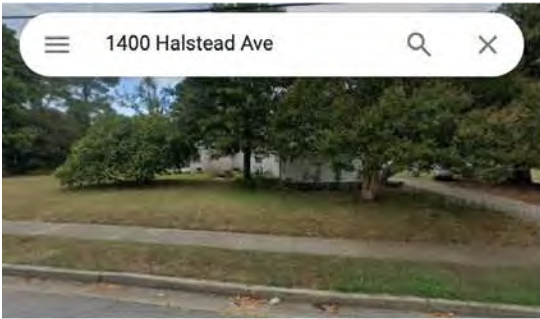
city or town: Norfolk state: VA zip code: 23508

e-mail: copmuzm@verizon.net

telephone: 757-658-4837

Date: 30 April 2024

PLEASE DO NOT ATTACH CONTINUATION SHEETS TO THIS FORM. THANK YOU!



☰ 1400 Halstead Ave 🔍 ✕

1400 Halstead Ave

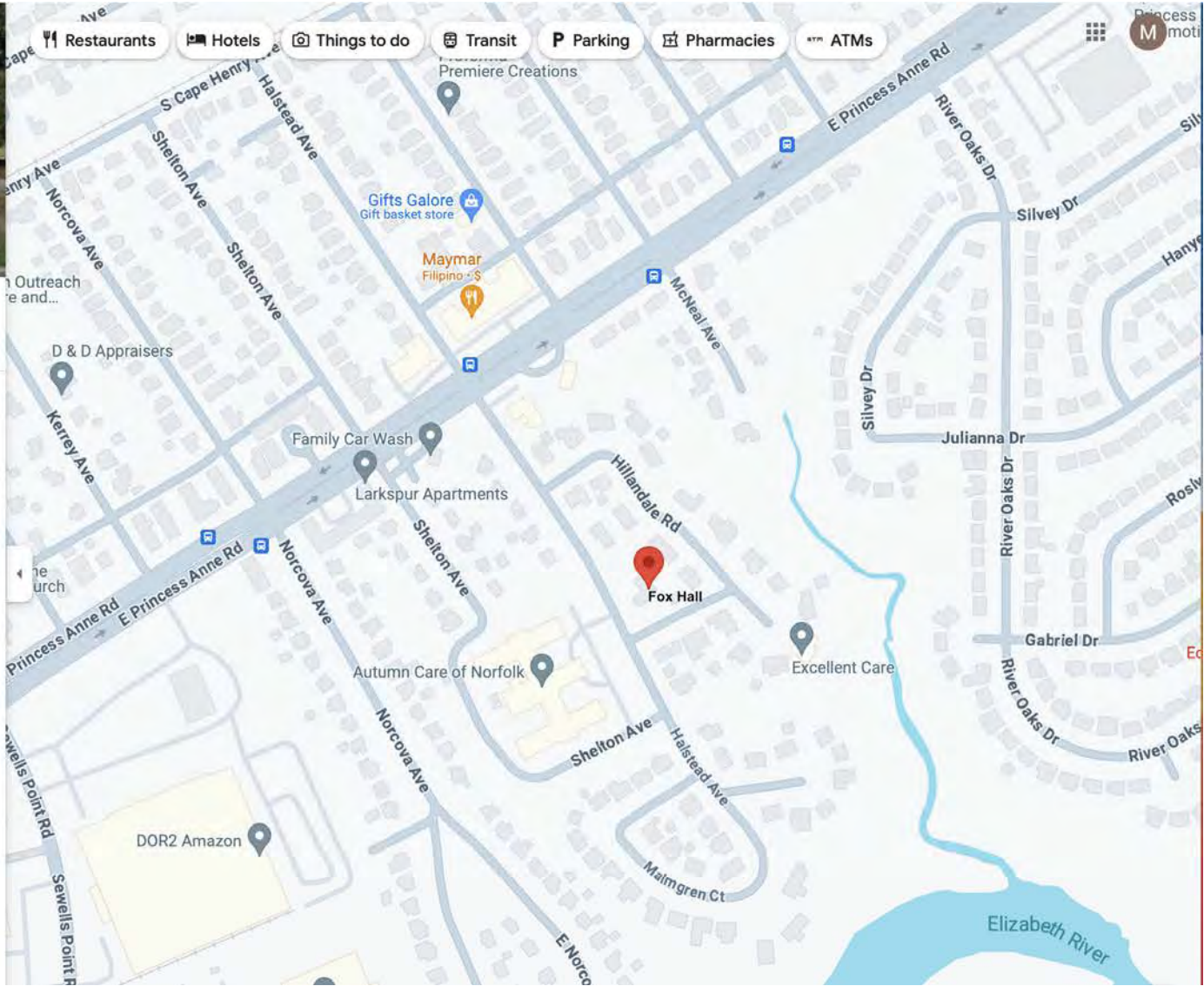
Building

Google Maps

Fox Hall

📍 1400 Halstead Ave, Norfolk, VA 23502

Halstead Ave. intersects East Princess Anne Road approximately 0.9 miles southwest of the intersection of Military Highway and East Princess Anne Road.





Fox Hall
1400 Halstead Ave.
Norfolk, VA

Halstead Ave

Halstead Ave

Halstead Ave

Halstead Ave

Halstead Ave

1411

1400

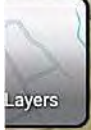
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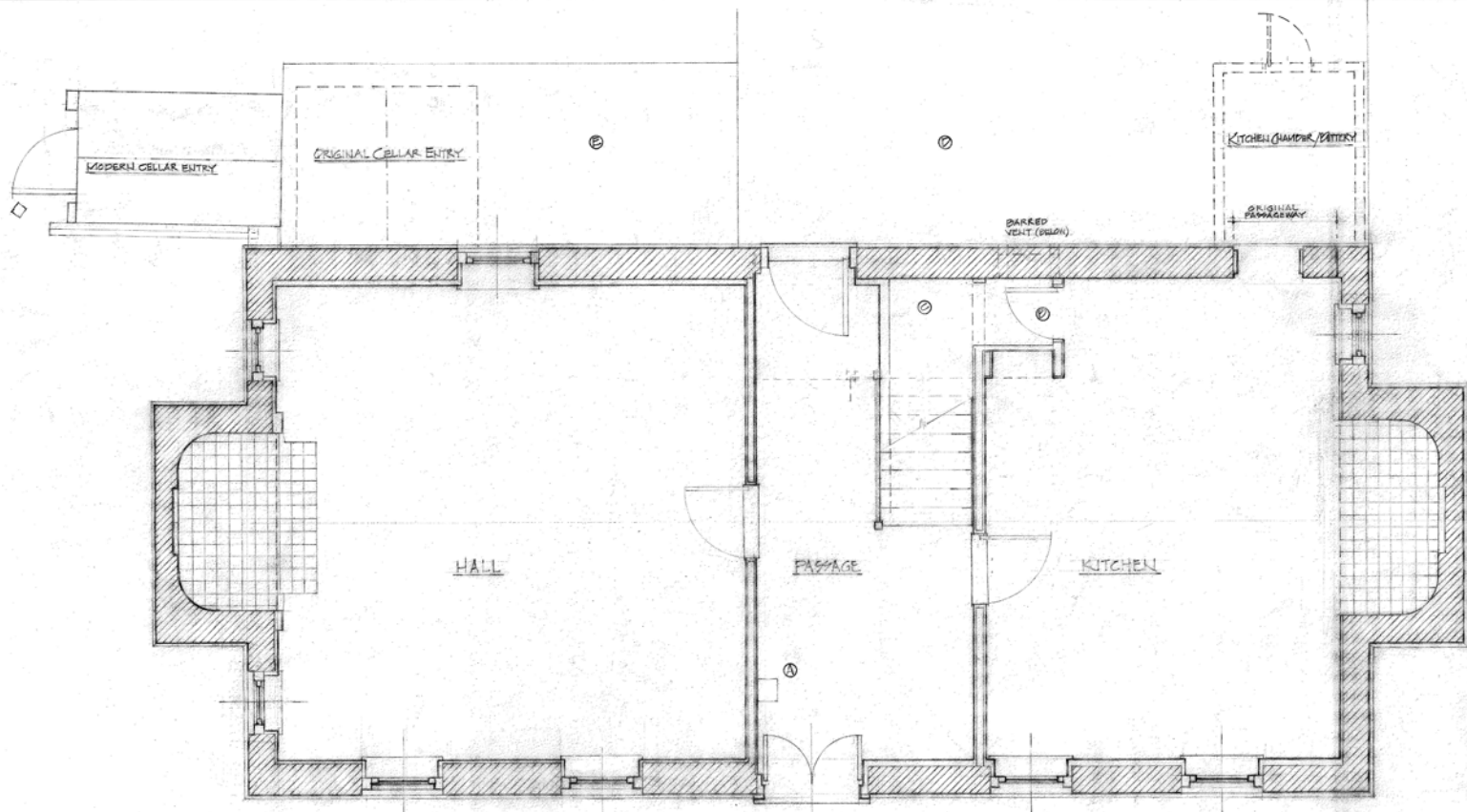
Marius Rd

Marius Rd

Google

Fox Hall Boundary Marks





- LEGEND**
- Ⓐ UTILITY CHASE
 - Ⓢ 18th CENTURY CLOSET
 - Ⓣ 19th PERIOD CLOSET
 - Ⓤ 2nd FLOOR LATE 19th C. EARLY 20th C. ADDITIONS
 - Ⓜ MODERN CONCRETE DECK

FOX HALL HOUSE - NORFOLK, VA.
 FIRST FLOOR PLAN
 4'-5 1/2" x 11'-0"
 1/8" = 1'-0"
 PLAN NORTH

REVISIONS	BY

Date 4-20-2020
 Scale
 Drawn GREGORY
 Job
 Sheet 1
 Of 1 Sheets

































































































































































