

## **Waterford Survey & NHL Documentation Update Project**

Partner Progress update

May 24, 2019

This is an update for preservation partners and interested parties on the progress of the Waterford Survey & NHL Documentation Update, proceeding under an agreement between the National Park Service (NPS) and the University of Delaware Center for Historic & Architectural Design (CHAD).

To date, the CHAD research team has conducted field survey of all 136 properties included in the original NHL nomination and 70 additional properties added due to changes within the district such as subdivision since the original listing. They have worked with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources to create new records and complete data entry for all 206 properties in the state's database of historic properties (the Virginia Cultural Resource Information System, or V-CRIS).

The next steps for the project involve completing the town history and a preliminary NHL nomination outline and continuing to work on architectural descriptions of each property and building the historic resource inventory (this is a list of what properties contribute and which do not contribute to the historic district). The team anticipates first drafts of the town history and outline in late June and the resource inventory is on schedule to be completed in late August.

NPS has received questions from interested parties about how the nomination will document non-architectural landscape elements such as circulation features and vegetation. CHAD and NPS consider the historic landscape integral to Waterford's historic character and they will include relevant information about historically significant landscape features that the team identifies in their research and survey. Because this is a historic district nomination that is intended to capture the overall character and features that make the place historic, the nomination will not include an exhaustive inventory of individual landscape elements, small scale features, or plantings but instead focus on general historical patterns and relevant examples.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the progress and plans for this project, and thank you for your work supporting preservation in Waterford.

Best wishes,

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