



86A-015 Mattaponi and Cemetery

11000 Mattaponi Road

Croom

Built in the mid-eighteenth century and rebuilt circa 1820, Mattaponi (pronounced mattah-poh-nye, the name is a Native American word meaning “meeting of waters”) is a three-part brick plantation house. The two-story, hip-roof central block has symmetrical chimneys, tripartite windows and fine interior detail of the late Federal style. This imposing dwelling was built circa 1820 for Robert W. Bowie, incorporating as its nucleus the eighteenth-century country house of his father, Governor Robert Bowie. Members of the Bowie family are buried on the grounds. Although significantly altered during renovations in the 1950s, Mattaponi represents an interesting evolution of a rural plantation house, the home of one of the county’s most prominent families. It is currently used as a Roman Catholic retreat and conference center.