Document 1-Archaeological Investigation

A limestone double flue central chimney (See Figure #3), DHR 21-550-18, the remains of a *domestic (house like)* structure located within the southeast corner of the 420-acre Joseph Tuley tract, has been dated from between the late eighteenth to the early nineteenth century. The site and former dwelling may possibly be the residence of an overseer, farm manager, or perhaps a temporary pre-Tuleyries dwelling for Joseph Tuley. Its location on a *limestone outcropping (rocky area) on non-arable (not farmable) land just north of and adjacent (close) to* Rattlesnake Spring make it a likely area for settlement in the first decade of the nineteenth century.\(^{17}\)

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Archaeological Survey Figure #3: Limestone double flue chimney, DHR 21-550-18 looking east.
Document 2-Excerpt from the Tuley Will

An appraisal of Tuley’s will in late 1825 documents that he died a man of considerable property. In addition to numerous farming utensils and equipment he owned 55 slaves, 4 teams of oxen, 24 cattle, a cow and calves, 72 sheep, 123 young hogs, 1 sow with 42 pigs, numerous horses, and a significant amount of agricultural equipment and tools. In addition, his residential furnishings document queensware (Wedgwood embossed creamware) ceramics, various glassware, a decanter, pitchers, a case of bottles, a mahogany table, a walnut side board, a bureau, tables, a cherry chest, chairs, a walnut chair, a carpet, 6 maps and a ‘prodigal son,’ six bedsteds and bedding, and a library containing “a number of volumes.”

Frederick County Land and Property Tax Record Book, 1801 – 1811, Frederick Winchester Judicial Center, Winchester, Virginia; Frederick County Will Book (FCWB)
Document 3-What is slate?
Slate is a metamorphic rock that breaks along flat cleavage planes formed by layered mica minerals. Slate has been mined in Buckingham County of central Virginia for hundreds of years.

Look for the orange flag marking the slate found at the Chimney

What does the slate suggest?

Additional information about slate if needed!

Sample Home from the Same Historic Era
Happy Retreat, Charles Town, Jefferson County, WV
Medium: 5 x 7 in.
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Document 4-Historical Summary of Blandy Experimental Farm

A Brief History of Blandy Experimental Farm

Joseph Tuley first appears in Frederick County records in 1786. During that year he was recorded on a survey as ‘Joseph Tuley, tanner of the County of Frederick.’ A tanner by trade, Tuley provided a valuable service to what was still a very rural agricultural community in the late eighteenth century. Personal property tax records for 1801 record Joseph Tuley as owning 5 slaves and 3 horses. It is assumed that the slaves worked for Tuley in his tannery in some domestic capacity and not in agricultural pursuits. In 1802, Joseph Tuley’s father-in-law died and he and his wife inherited money and slaves. It is more than likely that this inheritance assisted Joseph Tuley in the purchase of land in the Blandy Experimental Farm project area.

In 1805, Joseph Tuley purchased a 420-acres including Rattlesnake Springs. By 1805, Joseph Tuley became a farmer and built up a considerable fortune.

Sometime after 1825 the construction of the Tuley mansion house commenced. The mansion was built of white painted brick and crowned with an octagonal (8 sided) cupola and dome. The residence was completed in 1833 and became known as the Tuleyries.

Graham F. Blandy purchased the 206-acre mansion house tract in September of 1903. In the next few years he actively pursued consolidating the Tuleyries estate acquiring former lands once owned by the Tuley’s. In a short span of less than six months Blandy had acquired 505 acres making the Tuleyries property a 912-acre estate.

Graham F. Blandy died in 1926. His will left 712-acres of the Tuleyries property, not including the mansion house and adjacent lands, to the University of Virginia. The will stated that the property was to be called the ‘Blandy Experimental Farm’ with the goal to ‘teach boys how to farm.’ The University of Virginia took possession of Blandy Experimental Farm in 1926.
Source (Document) 5-Archaeological Site

This was found by archaeologists at the chimney site.

What do you see when you look at what was found at the site?

What do you think about the object that was found at the site?

What do you wonder about what was found at the site?

What other source can you use to support what you think was found at the site?