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Magazine of the

Jefferson County Historical Society

Volume XXIII

December 1957

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Magazine of the

JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Volume XXIII December 1957

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JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Organized May 21, 1927

Headquarters — Esta Burton Hilleary Museum

Charles Town, West Virginia

OFFICERS

President—A. D. Kenamond, Shepherdstown, W. Va.

Vice President—J. Burns Huyett, Charles Town, W. Va.

Recording Secretary—Thornton T. Perry, Jr., Charles Town, W. Va.

Corresponding Secretary—Ella May Turner (died August 2).

Rachel Snyder, Shepherdstown (since October 1).

Treasurer—Frank W. Buckles, Gap View Farm, Charles Town, W. Va.

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Directors—Anne Lloyd Baylor, Charles Town; Mrs. Robert Browse, Charles Town; Margaret P. Chew, Charles Town; Susan Gregg Gibson, Charles Town; Mrs. Charles R. Langdon, Charles Town; Mrs. H. P. Schley, Shepherdstown.

ADDRESSES

(Delivered before the Society since December 1, 1956)

May 11 at Charles Town—Review of "Virginia Exiles" by Miss Mildred Conard.

November 2 at Harpers Ferry—History and Development of the Harpers Ferry National Monument area by Park Historian Herbert H. Kissling.

Membership—Open to all who have an interest in the history of Jefferson County. Annual dues of $1.00 should be paid to Treasurer Frank W. Buckles before the meeting in May.

Price of the Magazine—$1.00 a copy. Copies of the 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1943, 1944 and 1956 issues are no longer available.

Orders for the Magazine should be given to Treasurer Frank W. Buckles, Gap View Farm, Charles Town, West Virginia.

"No man is fit to be entrusted with the control of the present who is ignorant of the past, and no people who are indifferent to their past need hope to make their future great."



Samuel Washington

From portrait by John Hesselins

HAREWOOD

by
John A. Washington
(of Washington, D. C., and Clarksburg)
and
Dr. John A. Washington
(of Washington, D. C., and Charles Town)

The Washington family first began to acquire land in the present Jefferson County in 1747, when Major Lawrence Washington (c1718-1752) of Mount Vernon, elder half-brother of George Washington, first bought land in what was then Frederick County. (Frederick Co. Deed Book 1-254.) Lawrence Washington continued until his death in 1752 to buy and patent land in this part of Frederick County, which fell into Berkeley County when it was formed in 1772 and became Jefferson County by partition from Berkeley in 1801. George Washington began to buy and patent land in 1750 in the same region.

Harewood house stands in a tract of 230 acres which Major Lawrence Washington bought from Robert Worthington for 80 pounds current money of Virginia, by deeds of lease and release dated 15 and 16 May 1751. (Frederick Co. Deed Book 2-277.) The land was part of a 3,000-acre patent of 2 Oct. 1735 to Robert Worthington, the elder. After his death the land was divided among his heirs by a chancery suit of partition in Orange County, within the broad bounds of which this region lay until the formation of Frederick County in 1742. 500 acres were laid off for Martha Worthington, one of the heirs; she married, as his first wife, Samuel Pearson and lived on the tract. On 10 and 14 May 1751 they sold to Robert Worthington, grandson of the original grantee, who immediately resold 230 acres to Lawrence Washington.

When Lawrence Washington died at Mount Vernon on 26 July 1752, he left a young widow, who had been Anne Fairfax (c1726-1761), and an infant daughter Sarah. The couple had already lost three children in infancy, and Maj. Washington apparently had small hope for Sarah's survival. While he left his property to her, most of his will is taken up with elaborate provisions, in the event of Sarah's death, for the division of his estate between his wife, his full brother Augustine Washington (Jr.), his half-sister, and four half-brothers, including George Washington. (Fairfax Co. Will Book A-1, 539.)

Lawrence Washington's Will

Sarah Washington did die soon after her father, and his extensive Frederick County lands, including the 230 acres bought from Worthington, were divided according to a provision of Maj. Washington's will: "But in Case it should Please god my said Daughter should Die without Issue. . . I give and Bequeath all those several tracts of Lands which I am Possessed of and Claim in the County of Frederick (Except [three specified tracts]) unto my Brothers Samuel John & Charles reserving as above an equal Proportion for my Brother George Provided they . . . . pay . . . . their Sister Betty Lewis . . . . one hundred & fifty Pounds." The reservation in favor of George Washington merely gave him the use of a share of the lands during the life of Lawrence's widow, Anne Fairfax Washington. After her death George was to inherit Mount Vernon and give up his right to use a share of the Frederick County lands.

Anne Fairfax Washington soon married, as her second husband, George Lee (1714-1761) of Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland County, and in 1754 leased her life interest in Mount Vernon to George Washington. When Anne died in 1761, George's right to use part of the Frederick County lands expired. The payment of 150 pounds to Betty Lewis was presumably made, and Lawrence's Frederick County lands were divided between Samuel, John, and Charles Washington.

The lands divided must have been approximately 5,000 acres; at least we know Samuel Washington died holding some 1,600 acres formerly owned by Lawrence Washington, and John and Charles had estates of comparable size (Prospect Hill, Claymont, Blakeley, Happy Retreat, the site of Charles Town), much of which can be identified with land acquired by Lawrence Washington.

Samuel Washington (1734-1781) was eighteen years old when his half-brother Lawrence and the baby Sarah died, putting him in possession of 1,600 acres in Frederick County. Virginians of the period, however, living in the long-settled tidewater region, considered such western lands not a reasonable place to live in the present, but a sort of insurance investment for the future. Samuel Washington had inherited 600 acres on Chotank Creek in Stafford County from his father Augustine

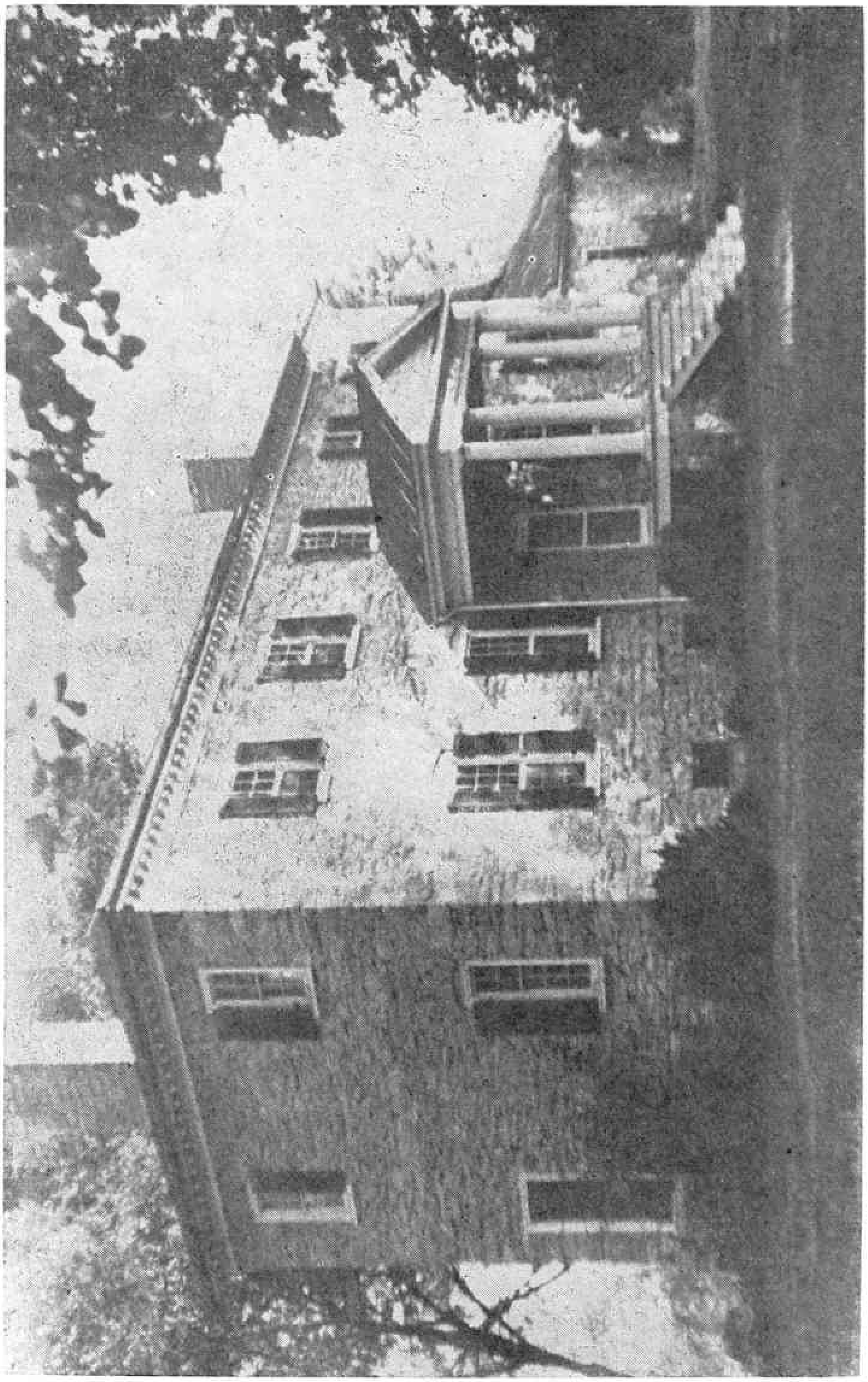
Washington (c1694-1743), and there, after great trouble and expense to clear the title, he settled.

About 1754 he married Jane Champe; their portraits (now hanging at Harewood) were painted by John Hesselius, but she soon died. About 1756 he married a cousin's daughter, Mildred Thornton; she had one child to survive infancy, Thornton Washington (c1758-1787), and she died. About 1761 Samuel married Louisa Chapman, and she died. In 1764, still under thirty, Samuel contracted his fourth marriage, with Anne Steptoe (1737-1777), childless widow of Willoughby Allerton. While a widow did not ordinarily inherit her husband's land in colonial Virginia, except the life use of one third of it (the widow's dower), Willoughby Allerton had been the last male of his family in Virginia, and it seems possible that Anne Steptoe Allerton may therefore have had more property than was usual for a woman of the day, even among the more prosperous families.

Reasons for Moving West

The French and Indian War ended in 1763, making the Frederick County region safer than it had been for several years. Samuel Washington's Stafford County farms, in common with all tidewater plantations, was doubtless becoming depleted from continuous tobacco planting without crop rotation. These considerations, together with the new and perhaps prosperous marriage with Mrs. Allerton in 1764, probably induced Samuel Washington to plan a house on his Frederick County land and move there.

During the 1750's and early 1760's, whenever war and Indian conditions permitted, Samuel Washington may have maintained a "quarter" on his Frederick County lands, worked by slaves and an overseer. He himself continued to live in Stafford County, and is recorded as a magistrate there from November, 1766, through July, 1769. In February, 1767, however, he advertised his 600-acre plantation and house for sale in the **Virginia Gazette.** One of his slaves was baptized in Stafford County as late as December, 1769. (St. Paul's Parish Register.) In Sept. 1770 Samuel Washington, his wife and children, visited two weeks at Mt. Vernon "on their way to Frederick," according to George Washington's diary. In Jan., 1771, Samuel made his first purchase of land in Frederick County and is then described as "of Frederick County."



Approximately When the Harewood House was Built

These details help settle the date when the house at Harewood was built. Clearly the family moved there in Sept. 1770, and it is inconceivable that a colonial Virginian would have failed to move into such a house as soon as it was completed; indeed the finishing touches might have been added after the family arrived. While it may have required several years to build, it can hardly have been begun before 1766. The late Thomas T. Waterman, authority on Virginia architecture of the period, was misled into stating on inadequate evidence that Harewood was built "about 1756." (**The Mansions of Virginia,** 1945, p. 325.) Waterman's theory that John Ariss may have been the architect of Harewood is strengthened, however, by the evidence that it was built in the late 1760's, since Waterman places Ariss as a resident of tidewater Virginia at least until 1762, and can first place him with certainty in the Frederick County region in 1769. (ibid., p. 248.)

Samuel Washington's Land

Samuel Washington bought tracts of land in Frederick County in 1771 and 1772 until he owned, including his inheritance from Lawrence Washington, some 3,800 acres. Most of it was contiguous, stretching in a great irregular zigzag from a point on the Leetown - Charles Town road about two miles northeast of the Harewood house to a point near Summit Point some three miles southwest of the house. One tract lay further south, separated from the rest by George Washington's Rock Hall farm.

Harewood house stands near the northern end of the 230-acre lot bought in 1751 by Lawrence Washington (2 on map); this tract extends to the south in a strip about one third of a mile wide and more than a mile long. To the east lay 240 acres which Samuel Washington bought from Samuel Pearson in 1771. (7 on map; Frederick Co. Deed Book 14-453.) The northern parts of these two tracts form part of the present Harewood farm.

Further southeast are two tracts totaling 431 acres which Samuel Washington bought from Samuel Worthington in 1771, including much of the present Locust Hill farm. (6 on map; Frederick Co. Deed Book 14-122.) North and northeast of the house, across the present turnpike, Samuel Washington bought 1,015 acres in 1771

from Isaiah and George Pemberton, including the later Megwillie farm. (4 & 5 on map; Frederick Co. Deed Book 14-78 & 14-84.)

Extending west from the house tract was a 570-acre lot called Rutherfords, which Lawrence Washington had held by patent from the Proprietor's office dated 1752. Cedar Lawn lies here. (3 on map.) South of Rutherfords a 790-acre tract, known as the Rich Woods or Surplus, extended to the present settlement of Mount Pleasant. Lawrence Washington had bought this from Robert Worthington the younger in 1748. (1 on map; Frederick Co. Deed Book 1-413.) The present-day Richwood Hall, however, stands in the old Rutherfords, rather than the old Rich Woods tract.

South of the Rich Woods was Rock Hall, owned by George Washington, and south of Rock Hall Samuel Washington bought 350 acres from Philip Pendleton, Jr., in 1772. (8 on map; Berkeley Co. Deed Book 1-350.) It has not been determined how the Washingtons acquired 156 acres at the northern end of this 350-acre tract (10 on map), which was owned by Samuel's son Thornton Washington before 1787.

Samuel Washington also held, from 1771, 212 acres at the foot of North Mountain, bought from Zachariah Connell (Frederick Co. Deed Book 14-385), but he sold it in 1777. (Berkeley Co. Deed Book 4-300.) In 1779 he bought 146 acres south of the Rich Woods from William McCormick. (9 on map; Berkeley Co. Deed Book 6-53, not indexed.)

The Second Generation

In 1777 Anne Steptoe Allerton Washington, the only one of Samuel's wives to live more than a short time after marriage, died following a smallpox vaccination. In thirteen years she had had six children. Four survived her: Ferdinand Washington, George Steptoe Washington, Lawrence Augustine Washington, and Harriott Washington Parks. About 1779 Samuel Washington married his fifth wife, Susannah Perrin, widow of George Holding or Holden of Gloucester County, and mother of two Holden daughters. By Samuel Washington she had a son John Perrin Washington.

Thornton Washington (c1758-1787), the only surviving child of Samuel Washington's first three youthful marriages, served as an Ensign in the Revolution and mar-

ried in 1779 in Charles County, Maryland, his third cousin, Mildred Berry of Stafford County, Virginia. In May, 1781, Samuel and Susannah Washington deeded to Thornton Washington the 350 acres bought from Pendleton in 1772. Then on Sept. 9, 1781, Samuel Washington, who had been in ill health for years, made his will, and on Sept. 27 he died. (Berkeley Co. Will Book 1-237.)

In his will Samuel Washington released Thornton Washington from paying 7,000 pounds (in depreciated Virginia currency) due on the purchase of the Pendleton tract the previous May. He left the house at Harewood, "the 230-acre tract on which I now reside," the adjacent 570-acre tract called Rutherfords, and 50 acres of the Isaiah Pemberton purchase to his fifth wife Susannah for life, and then to their son John Perrin Washington. He divided some 2,566 acres between Ferdinand Washington, George Steptoe Washington, and Lawrence Augustine Washington, the three surviving sons of his fourth marriage. He provided that if any of these three or John Perrin Washington died under age and without issue, their lands should be divided among all the other sons, Thorton Washington not excepted.

A widow disatisfied with the provision made for her by her husband's will had the legal right to renounce the will and elect to take her dower — that is, the life use of one third of the real estate and full title to one third of the personal property, including slaves. Susannah Perrin Holden Washington seems to have exercised this right, for we find her dower partitioned off to her (Berkeley Co. Deed Book 6-125), but she died in March, 1783, a year and a half after her husband.

The Second Owner of Harewood

John Perrin Washington could not have been more than five years old when he inherited the Harewood house and 850 accompanying acres after his mother's death, by the terms of his father's will. He died, however, within a few months, and Samuel Washington's will provided that in this case the house and land should be equally divided between Thornton Washington, Ferdinand Washington, George Steptoe Washington, and Lawrence Augustine Washington, the four remaining sons. All but Thornton Washington were under age at the time, (1783), and no division was made for many years.

In Feb., 1788, Ferdinand Washington died at the age of twenty years and seven months; he had apparently

married, but certainly had no child. As he thus died under age and without issue, his land was to be divided according to his father's will equally among Thornton Washington, George Steptoe Washington, and Lawrence Augustine Washington. This included Ferdinand's proportion, as yet undivided, of little John Perrin Washington's land including the Harewood house. The house, therefore, was now owned jointly by the three brothers.

Thornton Washington, however, had died in 1787, leaving by his first marriage two sons, Thomas Berry Washington and John Thornton Augustine Washington. He also left a widow Frances T., nee Washington (who had been another distant cousin); and a son, Samuel Washington, of this second marriage. These heirs, therefore, were entitled to Thornton Washington's third of the estates of John Perrin Washington and Ferdinand Washington, including specifically a share of the Harewood house.

Frances Townsend Washington Washington (1767-c1805) married in 1788 her second husband, Griffin Stith of Brunswick County, and in 1790 they deeded her dower right to the land of Thornton Washington to the guardians of Thornton's three infant sons. (Berkeley Co. Deed Book 16-224.) One of the three, Thomas Berry Washington, died in 1794, under age, and his estate was divided, two-thirds to his full brother John Thornton Augustine Washington (1783-1841) and one third to his half-brother Samuel Washington (1787-1867). (Berkeley Co. Deed Book 13-307.) No deed has been found by which Samuel Washington (1787-1867) gives up his various rights to a share in Harewood, derived in all these ways, but when the partition was finally recorded in 1806 (Jefferson Co. Deed Book 4-36) between George Steptoe Washington (1771-1809), Lawrence Augustine Washington (1774-1824), and the heirs of Thornton Washington (c1758-1787) to divide their common lands, only John Thornton Augustine Washington (1783-1841) of Cedar Lawn represented his father Thornton Washington, and the younger half-brother Samuel Washington is not mentioned.

The Third Owner of Harewood

This 1806 partition divides 1,564 acres. This corresponds fairly well, considering the rough surveying standards of the day, with the 1,521 acres devised in 1781 by Samuel Washington to the sons who died young (671

acres to Ferdinand Washington and 850 acres to John Perrin Washington). George Steptoe Washington, who had lived at Harewood since his marriage to Lucy Payne in 1793, received 685 acres, including the house. This, added to the 965 acres inherited directly from his father (being most of the 1771 Pemberton purchases north of the turnpike) gave George Steptoe Washington a holding at Harewood of some 1650 acres.

In 1807 George Steptoe Washington (1771-1809) made his will, leaving his land to be divided among his three sons, Samuel Walter Washington (1797-1831), William Temple Washington (1800-1874), and George Washington (1806-1831), subject to their mother's dower. The "mansion house" was to go to the oldest son, Samuel Walter Washington.

The Fourth Owner

When George Steptoe Washington died in 1809, the property was held again in a joint tenancy until another division in 1828 (Jefferson Co. Deed Book 15-67), when all three sons had reached the age of 21 and married. Then by three deeds among themselves they divided the estate, now totalling 1790 acres, into three parts. The share including the house, allotted to Dr. Samuel Walter Washington (1797-1831), included 593 acres, 2 perches, and an unconnected woodlot of 7 acres, 1 rood, 36 perches.

On 12 October, 1831, Dr. Samuel Walter Washington died, leaving a widow and four young children, and the next day his brother George Steptoe Washington, Jr., died, leaving a widow but no children. Neither had written a will. Thus for the third time in as many generations a young death of the owner of Harewood threw the house into the joint tenancy of a widow and minor children. Dr. Samuel Walter Washington (1797-1831) had studied medicine in Philadelphia and there married in 1820 Louisa Clemson (1805-1882), who now in 1831 inherited the dower right to one third of the real estate for her lifetime, while each of their four children inherited one fourth of the remainder at once and one fourth of the dower third when their mother should die.

No move to divide the property was made until after the eldest child, Lucy Elizabeth Washington (1823-1381) had married in 1840 John William Bainbridge Packett.

Then in 1842 through the device of a chancery suit brought by the Packetts, commissioners appointed by the court divided a share for Mrs. Packett, and the dower third, including the house, for Mrs. Louisa Clemson Washington (1805-1882). The shares for the other three children were temporarily left in common.

Division in the Fourth Generation

The division is complicated by the fact that two suits were consolidated. One involved the division of Dr. Samuel Walter Washington's land, including the house. The other involved his share in the "Belvidere" estate of his brother George Steptoe Washington, Jr., who had died childless and intestate the day after Dr. Washington. The land inherited by Dr. Washington's four children from this uncle was in the unusual condition of being subject to three successive dower rights at the same time: The entire estate of George Steptoe Washington (1771-1809) was subject to the dower of his widow, Mrs. Lucy Payne Washington Todd (c1776-1846); the third partitioned to George Steptoe Washington, Jr., (1806-1831) was likewise subject to the dower right of his widow, Mrs. Gabriella Augusta Hawkins Washington; and the half of this estate inherited by Dr. Samuel Walter Washington's four children from their uncle George Steptoe Washington, Jr., was subject to the dower right of Dr. Washington's widow, their mother, Mrs. Louisa Clemson Washington.

The lot laid off for Mrs. Louisa Clemson Washington as dower in her husband's estate, including the land inherited from his brother, was chosen so as to include the mansion house and all improvements on the property, but only 133 acres of cleared land and 26 detached woodlot acres. The acreage was reduced in extent to compensate for including the improvements.

In 1844 Christian Maria Washington (1826-1895), second daughter of Dr. Samuel Walter Washington, married her third cousin, Richard Scott Blackburn Washington (1822-1910) of Blakeley, Jefferson County. By a further chancery suit brought by them the remaining undivided land of Dr. Samuel Walter Washington's estate was partitioned among the children in 1849 (Jefferson Co. Deed Book 31-96), completing the division begun in 1842.

The Reversion to Harewood 1844-1882

These divided lands adjoined the mansion-house lot held by Mrs. Louisa Clemson Washington as dower, and

her four children were each entitled to one fourth of the expectancy or "reversion" of the dower land and house upon her death. In 1854 the youngest daughter, Annie Steptoe Clemson Washington (1831-1911), married Thomas Augustus Brown (1822-1909). Before their marriage, they deeded her share of the Harewood land, "Sulgrave," and her reversionary one-fourth right to her mother's dower land and house, in trust for Mrs. Brown's sole use, to her brother George Lafayette Washington (1825-1872) as trustee. (Jefferson Co. Deed Book 34-241.)

In 1855 by an exchange of deeds, John B. Packett and Lucy E. his wife, of Locust Hill, gave up to her two sisters and brother the Packetts' one-fourth right to the reversion of the Harewood house and dower land after the death of Mrs. Louisa Clemson Washington. (Jefferson Co. Deed Book 34-506.) In return the other three gave up to Mrs. Packett their rights to the reversion of the smaller parcel held as dower by Mrs. Gabriella Augusta Hawkins Washington, widow of their childless uncle, George Steptoe Washington, Jr., (1806-1831) of Belvidere. Thus after 1855 the reversion of the mansion house was held, one third by Christian Maria Washington (1826-1895), one third by George Lafayette Washington (1825-1872), one third by Annie Steptoe Clemson Washington Brown (1831-1911). Of Mrs. Brown's third, the one fourth she had inherited from her father was held in trust by her brother George Lafayette Washington, but the one twelfth received in 1855 from the Packetts was not in the trust.

In 1867 the Brown one-third of the reversion to Harewood was sold by the Browns and by George Lafayette Washington, as trustee, to Richard Scott Blackburn Washington (1822-1910), their brother-in-law. (Jefferson Co. "Recorder's" Deed Book 2-219.) Now Mr. and Mrs. Richard Washington each owned one third of the reversion, and her brother, George Lafayette Washington owned the remaining third. Mrs. Louisa Clemson Washington continued to live at Harewood, but it was at about this time that her son George Lafayette Washington moved from Harewood to New Castle County, Delaware, and Christian Maria Washington and her husband later moved from Blakeley to Harewood, to live with her mother.

In 1868 George Lafayette Washington (1825-1872) and Ann Bull Clemson Washington (1833-1914) his wife,

sold their one third of the reversion to Harewood to John Augustine Washington (1847-1923), eldest son of Richard Scott Blackburn Washington and Christian Maria Washington his wife. They also sold him 118 acres of cleared land and 31 acres of woodland, which was George Lafayette Washington's portion of his father's estate divided to him in 1849. (Jefferson Co. "Recorder's" Deed Book 3-224.) In 1870 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Washington sold to this same son John Augustine Washington the one third of the reversion to Harewood which Richard Washington had bought in 1867 from the Browns. (Jefferson Co. "Recorder's" Deed Book 5-278.) John Augustine Washington (1847-1923) now held two thirds of the reversion to Harewood after his grandmother's death, while his mother, Christian Maria Washington (1826-1895) continued to hold the one third which she had acquired by inheritance from her father and by deed from the Packetts in 1855.

The Present Harewood Farm

At this time the Harewood farm had assumed its approximate present shape and size. Essentially it now consists of 133 acres, including the house, laid off as dower in 1842 for Mrs. Louisa Clemson Washington, and the 118 acres laid off in 1849 for George Lafayette Washington and sold by him in 1868 to his nephew, John Augustine Washington. Small additions to straighten lines were made, first by a deed from Andrew Aldridge and Margaret his wife in 1870 to John Augustine Washington (Jefferson Co. "Recorder's" Deed Book 4-513), and second by a deed from Humphrey Keys and Jane H. his wife in 1875 to John Augustine Washington (Jefferson Co. Deed Book C-73).

In terms of the original purchases, the present Harewood farm consists roughly of the northern part of the 230 acres bought by Lawrence Washington in 1751 from Robert Worthington, including the house site, the northern part of the 240 acres bought by Samuel Washington from Samuel Pearson in 1771, and the southern portion of the Isaiah Pemberton purchase of 1771. The house and the southern part of the present farm lie within the 3,000-acre patent to Robert Worthington, the elder, in 1735.

After more than fifty years of widowhood Mrs. Louisa Clemson Washington died in 1882, and the house, with 133 acres and a 26-acre woodlot, was then automatically

owned, one third by Mrs. Christian Maria Washington and two thirds by her son John Augustine Washington. There the family continued to live until after Mrs. Washington's death in 1895. Then they built a house at 216 South George Street in Charles Town and moved there.

By her will dated 1893 (Jefferson Co. Will Book B-228) Mrs. Christian Maria Washington left her entire estate to her son John Augustine Washington (1847-1923), except for a legacy of money to her daughter Christine Maria Washington (1858-1937). This served to convey to John Augustine Washington his mother's remaining one third of the ownership of the house and 133 acres at Harewood. If her husband had any title to this real estate (inherited from her father and deeded to her by the Packetts in 1855) such a right expired with his death in 1910.

The Twentieth Century

In 1912 John Augustine Washington, then a childless widower, deeded his Harewood farm, stated to consist of 267 acres, to his next oldest brother, Samuel Walter Washington (1853-1923). (Jefferson Co. Deed Book 108-401.) By his will dated 1923 (Jefferson Co. Will Book E-141) Samuel Walter Washington devised the Harewood farm to his two children, Samuel Walter Washington (1901-) and John Augustine Washington (1903-). In 1947 (Jefferson Co. Deed Book 168-318) Samuel Walter Washington and Simone F. his wife deeded his half interest in Harewood to his brother, Dr. John Augustine Washington, the present proprietor.

Here then is an instance of a farm which has remained in the same family since 1751, with a house built in the late 1760's which has been virtually unchanged since its construction. Though Harewood itself changes little, and its farm has shrunk from more than 3,800 to less than 300 acres, the family which has gone out from it has spread and multiplied until now some seven or eight hundred descendants of Col. Samuel Washington, the builder of Harewood, are living in many states and several foreign countries.

LAND OWNED BY SAMUEL WASHINGTON

SUPERIMPOSED ON PLAT ARE APPROXIMATE LOCATIONS OF VARIOUS PRESENT-DAY LANDMARKS (ROADS, STREAMS ETC.).

SUBDIVISIONS REPRESENT TRACTS SEPARATELY BOUGHT.

1. AUG. 3, 1748. ROBT. WORTHINGTON TO LAWRENCE W.
2. MAY 15, 1751. ROBT. WORTHINGTON TO LAWRENCE W.
3. 1752. PATENT TO LAWRENCE WASHINGTON
4. FEB. 5, 1771. ISAIAH PEMBERTON TO SAML. W.
5. FEB. 5, 1771. GEORGE PEMBERTON TO SAML. W.
6. MAR. 5, 1771. SAML. WORTHINGTON TO SAML. W.
7. MAY. 7, 1771. SAML. PEARSON TO SAMUEL W.
8. SEP. 7, 1772. PHILIP PENDLETON TO SAML. W.
9. DEC. 12, 1779. WM: McCORMACK TO SAML. W.
10. BEFORE 1787 ? TO SAML. OR THORNTON W.

LEETOWN - CHARLES TOWN ROAD

MEGWILLIE

PRESENT DAY BOUNDARIES OF HAREWOOD

MIDDLEWAY - CHARLES TOWN ROAD

CALEDONIA

HAREWOOD

EVITTS RUN

PIEDMONT

RICHWOOD HALL

SULGRAVE

LOCUST HILL

CEDAR LAWN

Magnetic North

B AND O R R

POINT - CHARLES TOWN ROAD

CLAYMONT

NORTH FORK BULLSK

BLAKELEY

SHENSTON

MT. PLEASANT

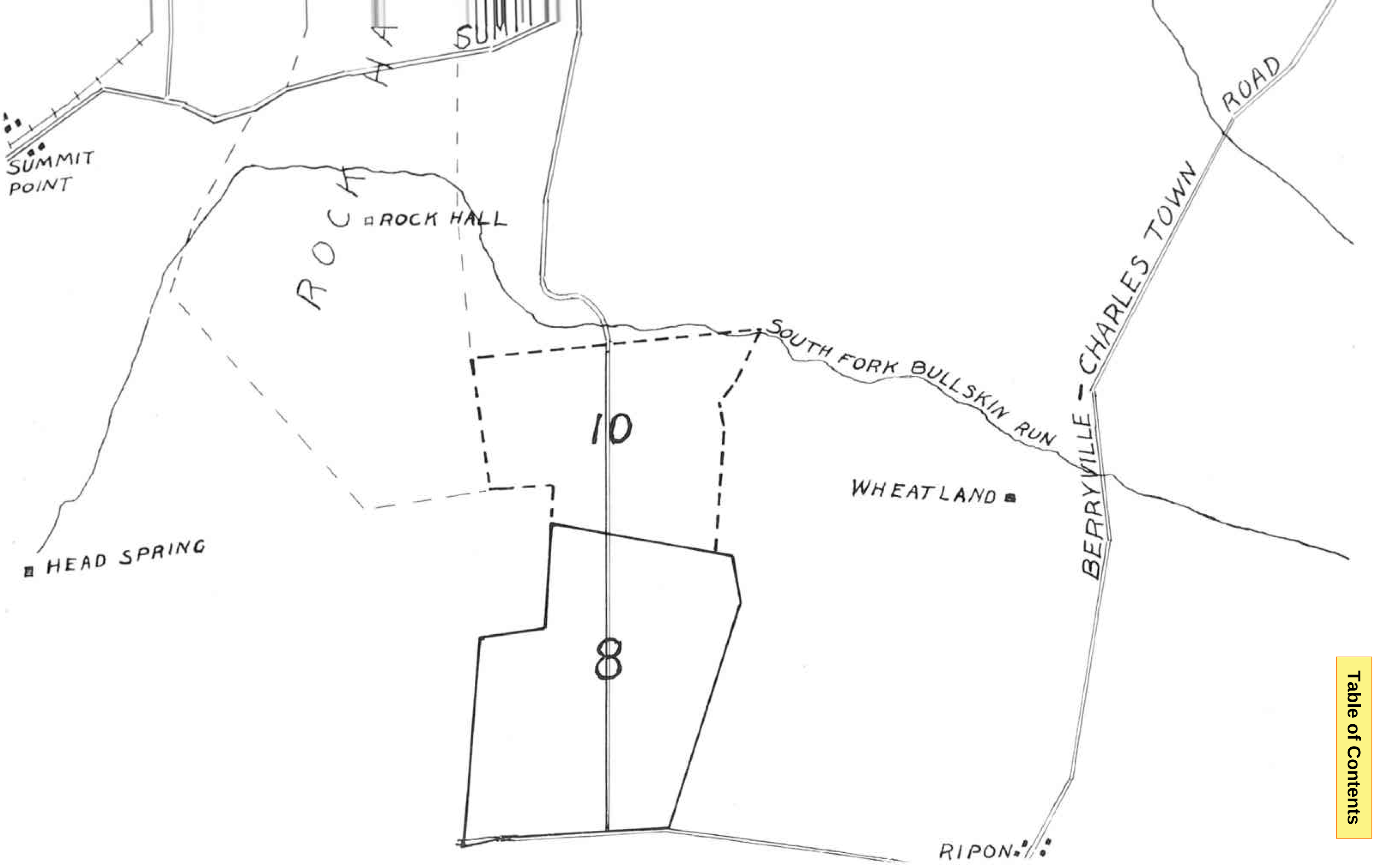


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ROCK HALL

In the extensive study of Samuel Washington's lands so capably executed by Dr. John A. Washington of "Harewood" and his cousin Mr. John Washington, the boundaries of Colonel Samuel's lands as they appear on Dr. Washington's plat touch upon the northeast and southwest borders of another large piece in the picture puzzle of Washington lands in Jefferson County — the 550 acre tract of "Rock Hall," George Washington's farm on the Bullskin. Roughly a trapezoid in shape, it had its left base angle also lopped off by a sale of 222 acres on the 29th of December, 1810, by General Washington's executors to John Hoye of Georgetown (original deed owned by Washington faimily). The remaining tract corresponds identically to the plat published herewith, which was drawn at the request of George Washington's executors, defining General Washington's Bullskin farm.

The title search for this "Bullskin plantation" or farm is far less complex than that for the much-divided land belonging to Colonel Samuel. The Bullskin farm changed ownership only four times by deed and twice by will since Washington's death. Yet strangely enough the significance of its ownership by General Washington has been ignored over the years. The papers are all very clear; the deeds dating back to Washington's executors are all on file in the Jefferson County Court House, the originals preserved by the Washington family of Harewood, and all rental leases to tenant farmers are recorded in the court houses in Martinsburg and Winchester.

The land for Rock Hall was George Washington's first purchase of farm land in his own name, and was paid for by his hard-earned savings from his surveying for Lord Fairfax. (Douglas Southall Freeman, George Washington, vol. 1, p. 243.) He purchased the land from Captain Rutherford on the 16th of October, 1750, and on the 25th of October had the deed approved by Lord Fairfax. (Va. Land Office Records, G, 465.) Requested for transfer as 453 acres, it was patented as 550 acres, but the fact that this represented the same tract is indicated by Washington's own survey of Nov. 24, 1750, which notes, with pardonable pride, "Surveyed for myself the Land at the Head of the Marsh, which I bought of Captain Rutherford and afterwards granted by Lord Fairfax" — (Washington's Survey Book, LC). By various

surveys through the years, the total acreage for the identical tract of Rock Hall changed several times, as will be noted by a careful study of the successive plats and deeds.

In December, after returning to Mount Vernon, George Washington arranged for the purchase of an additional 456 acres belonging to James McCracken, making a down payment of 45 pounds and promising to pay the balance of 77 pounds within a few months. (Freeman, G. W., Vol. 1, p. 244.) He met the second payment in March, 1751. (Washington Ledger A, Folio 5.)

By 1755, the proud young landowner had already established a quarters at Rock Hall, as he directed a letter to Sally Fairfax from "Bullskin, April 30, 1755." This was written on the night before he joined Braddock's expedition, when he had stopped to check on his farming operations on the Bullskin.

By 1760, his diaries contained numerous references to farming results from Rock Hall — "Had 15 Hogs arrived from the Bullskin"; "Wrote to Hardwick (his overseer) ordering down 2 mares from there"; "Received letter informing me that smallpox had got among my quarters," etc. On this latter occasion, Washington directed that "if any more at the upper Quarter gets it, have them removed to my Room, and the Nurse sent for." (Diaries.)

On successive trips to the frontier, in March, 1769, October, 1770, and March of 1774, George Washington stopped at his quarters on his way to and from Winchester, where he had increasingly urgent military business to execute. (Freeman, Diaries.) While in Winchester, he divided a substantial part of his farmland in Jefferson County into 200-acre tracts, and drew up a series of rental leases to settle reliable tenant farmers on each, requiring that each tenant should build a 20-ft. dwelling house and a 40-ft. barn, plant and care for certain crops, install certain "Creatures," plant an orchard and vineyard and maintain the woodlots without overcutting. Each farm was to be open to inspection by Washington's overseer, and in the event of breech of contract the property was to revert to Washington. (Frederick County Deed Books 1-21, Berkeley County Deed Books, 1, 2.) But there is no rental lease for his 550 acre Rock Hall tract, which he apparently farmed all through the years from Mount Vernon under the care of an overseer.

The deed for the Bullskin farm (by then called Rock Hall) from Washington's executors to Lawrence Lewis is a most detailed and interesting document. (Deed Book 11, p. 134, Jefferson County.) It recites the full details of a suit in the Superior Court of Chancery at Richmond, in which Thomas Lee's descendants were held responsible for his purchase of Rock Hall from Washington's executors in the sale following Washington's death. Lee's descendants failing to pay the sum due, the property was again advertised for sale and the executors sold the property to Lawrence Lewis for the sum of $17,115. The plat published herewith was drawn up at this time. In this deed, the Rock Hall land is described as "estimated to contain 540 acres, but found by survey to contain 550 acres."

On October 19, 1819, Lawrence Lewis et ux conveyed to Matthew Ranson of Jefferson County, for the sum of $17,115, the same land, "commonly called Rock Hall," with the same boundaries and acreage. James Maxwell, surveyor, drew up a plat which is owned by the Washington family, showing the same boundaries and distances as the original plat, but giving the acreage as 622.1.33. This plat is dated Nov. 5 and 6, 1819.

Matthew Ranson and Elizabeth his wife sold Rock Hall on March 25th, 1830, to Thomas Hite Willis, for $14,630. Described in the deed and in the metes and bounds accompanying the plat as a tract of 650 acres, "the same which was conveyed to the said Matthew Ranson by Lawrence Lewis," it is identified on the plat as containing 550 acres (original plat owned by Washington family). The reason for this and other discrepancies would be a study for a surveyor.

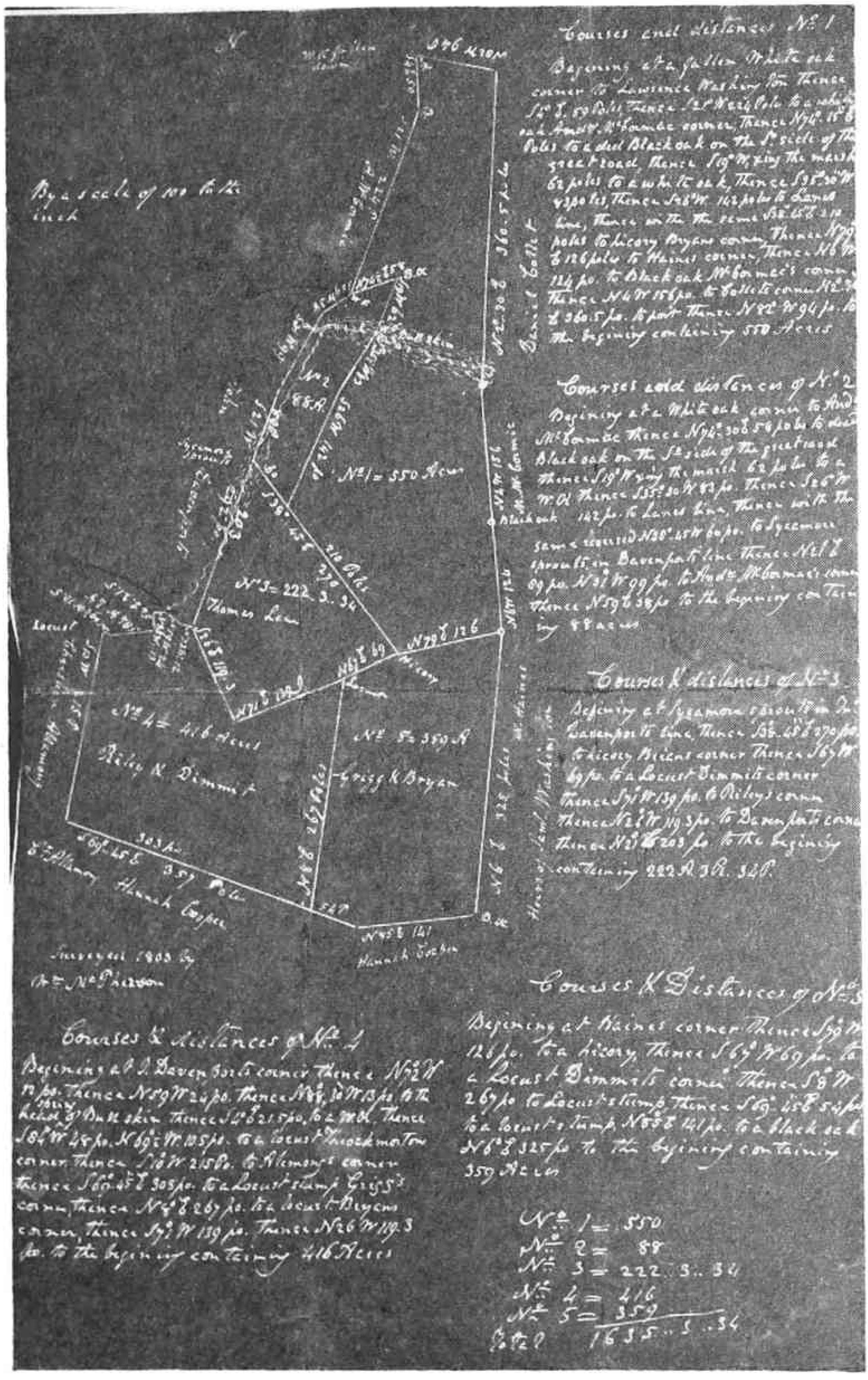
During the Willis' ownership, Rock Hall came again into Washington family hands. Nathaniel Hite Willis, son of Thomas Hite Willis, married Jane Charlotte Washington, daughter of John Augustine Washington III, last Washington owner of Mount Vernon. At Rock Hall the Willises' large family was born, and lived there until the house was totally destroyed by fire in 1906. The family then moved into town, and in October, 1912, sold the Rock Hall property to Mr. John L. Burns of Charles Town. (Jefferson County Deed Book 108, p. 233.)

In this deed, Rock Hall is described as being composed of two contiguous tracts of land, (1) the tract

owned by N. H. Willis in his own right, originally containing 285 acres, (Deed Book B. p. 107), and the other tract owned by Jane C. Willis in her own right, originally containing 285 acres. (Deed Book A, p. 136.) Reference is also made to a deed from Jane C. Willis and N. H. Willis her husband, dated Dec. 1, 1909, conveying 93 acres more or less of the original Rock Hall tract to W. B. Grove. By this transaction Rock Hall is said to be reduced to 472 acres, 2 roods and 22 poles. A plat is filed with the deed.

Rock Hall was leased on the 22nd of December, 1944 to Victor Products, a corporation owned by Mr. R. J. Funkhouser, and was operated for some time as a part of his extensive Victor Farms, grazing blooded Herefords. Since Mr. Funkhouser's removal from Jefferson County, it has been farmed under tenant farmers by the Burns heirs. During the latter tenancy farming, a disastrous fire gutted the picturesque old stone tenant house. At the present time, only the shell of this building, and a stone meat and spring house remain of George Washington's Bullskin Plantation.

— Charlotte Judd Fairbairn


By a scale of 100 Po. to the Inch
No 1 = 550 Acres
No 2 = 88 A
No 3 = 222 3. 34
Thomas Lea
No 4 = 416 Acres
Riley N. Dimmitt
No 5 = 359 A
Gregg & Bryan
Surveyed 1883 by
A. E. McPherson
Courses & Distances of No 1
Beginning at a White oak corner to Wm. McPherson
Courses & Distances of No 2
Courses & Distances of No 3
Courses & Distances of No 4
Courses & Distances of No 5
No 1 = 550
No 2 = 88
No 3 = 222 3. 34
No 4 = 416
No 5 = 359
1635 3. 34

MORE LAND GRANTS

Regal Grants

(Land books containing regal grants are designated by number. Jefferson County grants thus far listed may be found in Book 15 of the Virginia Land Grants. Eleven of them were reported in the 1956 issue of this Magazine. Four additions are herewith made.)

October 3, 1734 — Samuel Taylor — 200 acres on the South side of the Cohongoluta.

October 3, 1734 — John VanMeter — 1786 acres, West of Sherrando, next to Josiah Jones. See Book 15, page 327.

October 3, 1734 — William Vestal — 285 acres, on western side of Sherrando River. See Book 15, page 332.

October 3, 1734 — Isaac Garrison — 1000 acres. Reference was made to this grant on page 18 of the 1956 issue of this magazine.

Fairfax Grants

(Thirty of these were reported in the 1956 issue of this Magazine. The Fairfax grant books, deposited in the Land Office at Richmond, are designated by letters.

Northern Neck Grants A to D include grants made in the period 1722-1732 when Robert Carter was agent and lessee for Lord Fairfax.

Northern Neck Grant Books E to F include the 1734-1747 grants while William Fairfax was agent at Belvoir, Fairfax County.

Northern Neck Grant Books G to S include the 1749-1781 grants made from Greenway Court. It appears that Thomas Lord Fairfax was not fully assured as to what, if any, lands he owned in present Jefferson County before he opened his land office in Frederick County in July 1749.

See Fairfax Harrison's **Virginia Land Grants.**)

October 25, 1750 — George Washington — 550 acres between north and south forks of Bullskin. See Making of a State by Edgar B. Sims, pages 129 and 151.

June 12, 1751 — William Chapline — 456 acres along Potomac. See Northern Neck Grants, Book G, page 547.

August 30, 1751 — Judith Lafferty and children Thomas and Esther. Along Ridge Road. See Northern Neck Grants, Book H, page 33.

March 17, 1752 — George Washington — 760 acres "near the head of the South Fork of Bullskin." See Making a State by Edgar B. Sims, pages 128 and 151.

March 20, 1752 — Lawrence Washington — 570 acres on Bullskin. See Making a State by Edgar B. Sims, pages 137 and 160.

March 20, 1752 — Lawrence Washington — 613 acres, adjoining Robert Worthington's grant. See Making a State by Edgar B. Sims, pages 137 and 160.

April 20, 1752 — Josiah Cart — 400 acres on Elk Branch. See Deed Book 3, page 533, Martinsburg.

November 2, 1756 — Anthony Turner, Jr. — 300 acres, near Potomac, touching lands of Thomas Swearingen and William Chapline. See Northern Neck Grants, Book H, page 726.

January 26, 1760 — Edward Lucas. He sold 100 acres of it, next to William Lucas, to Martin Woolford in 1777. See Deed Book 4, page 121, Martinsburg.

February 27, 1760 — Edward Lucas — 554 acres, near Duffieds. See Deed Book 7, page 88, Martinsburg.

May 12, 1760 — William Hiett — 203 acres, east of the Opequon, including Priest's Field. See Deed Book 1, page 153, Charles Town.

September 4, 1760 — Thomas Rutherford — 2071 acres. See Deed Book 6, page 105, Winchester.

March 4, 1763 — Robert Harper — 184 acres on Elk Branch. See Deed Book 5, page 531, Martinsburg.

May 11, 1763 — Michael Turner — 60 acres near Potomac. See Northern Neck Grants, Book M, page 161. Original deed owned by Mrs. Sam Knott.

May 9, 1768 — William Forester — 200 acres near Potomac. See Deed Book 7, page 16, Martinburg.

May 9, 1768 — Joseph Barnes, Sr. — 200 acres. See Deed Book 11, page 479, Martinburg.

February 26, 1772 — Edward Lucas — 373 acres, adjoining John Taylor. He deeded it to William Lucas on June 15, 1772. See Deed Book 1, page 479, Martinsburg.

February 5, 1774 — Joseph Barnes, Sr. — 55 acres, adjoining 200 acres granted him in 1768, near Potomac. He deeded it to his son John Barnes in 1786. See Deed Book 7, page 16, Martinsburg.

October 20, 1774 — Charles Washington — 445 acres near Bullskin, adjoining Ben Grub's land. See Making a State by Edgar B. Sims, pages 137 and 164.

CENTURY FARMS II

(Continuing a list of Jefferson County farms held in the same family for a hundred years or more, some of them for more than 200 years. Fifteen such farms were reported in the 1956 issue of this magazine.)

Harewood (1751)

The Harewood farm of 267 acres, now owned by Dr. John A. Washington, of Washington, D. C., is given the date 1751, since the historic Harewood house stands near the northern end of the 230 acre lot bought by Lawrence Washington in that year. However, the present farm includes parts of two other tracts bought by Samuel Washington in 1771.

The reader is referred to a fuller account, found on preceding pages of this issue, in which the title Harewood is used to include all of the ten tracts, mostly contiguous, owned by Samuel Washington, who inherited from his half-brother Lawrence Washington.

Dr. John A. Washington, of the sixth generation of Washingtons to own Harewood, lives there during a portion of each summer and spends frequent week-ends at his ancestral home.

Hart-Daniels Farm (1755))

This farm of 137 acres, now held by Mrs. J. Hendricks Daniels, lies about three-fourths of a mile south of Duffields along the east side of the road leading to Charles Town. In 1887 and 1894 deeds it is referred to as the "Sleepy Hollow" farm, apparently inappropriately, since the name didn't stick.

The farm is a part of a tract of 320 acres, more or less, granted to Thomas Hart (the Elder) by Fairfax on July 5, 1755. It is a matter of record that Thomas Hart was holding the tract on January 1, 1754 and had served, by court order, as an appraiser of the William Vestal estate on July 2, 1746. He may have been living there for some time before 1746, but, due to the fact that he lived till 1804, it is hardly likely that he was old enough to take "tomahawk possession in 1730" as asserted in **Hardesty's Historical Atlas** of 1883, from which Gardiner's **Chronicles of Old Berkeley** probably took license to carry the same statement.

Deed Book 3, page 434, Martinsburg, records that on September 17, 1775, Thomas Hart (the Elder) gave to

Thomas Hart, Jr., "in consideration of natural love and affection and other good causes the land where Thomas Hart the Younger now dwells, lying and being on or near the drains of Cabin Run, part of a Greater Tract of 320 acres" secured by a deed from "the Proprietor of the Northern Neck bearing date the fifth day of July 1755." The part given Thomas Hart the Younger contained 132 acres and had a house, orchards and pastures. Deeds to this same farm since 1816, when John Daniels got possession, have said it contains 137 acres.

On January 25, 1796 Thomas Hart the Elder and Ann his wife (also called Nancy) sold 138 acres of the original tract, for 828 pounds, to his son-in-law Mason Bennett, who had married Sara Hart. This farm, by later McPherson survey found to contain 150 acres, was sold by the Bennetts to Isaac Showalter on December 21, 1809, and later passed to Jas. H. Moore. It is now known as the Vickers farm and on it is a graveyard in which several legible Showalter tombstones may be found.

The will of Thomas Hart the Elder, dated August 28, 1804 and probated December 1, 1804, besides naming children and some grand-children and showing he had a house and lot in Shepherdstown, gave the land on which he then lived to his wife Nancy, and authorized his executors to sell same after her death. Evidently his wife did not long survive him, since this land was sold on January 18, 1805 to John Abell. It is now embraced in the farm of Gilbert Hendricks, its acreage having been increased somewhat during the tenures of John Abell, Charles Moler and J. Garland Hurst.

Thomas Hart Junior, owner of what is now the J. Hendricks Daniels farm, died nearly ten years before his father. His will dated January 11, 1795, and probated January 20, 1795, named as executors his wife Anne and his brothers-in-law, Daniel VanMeter, who married Ruth Hart, and Mason Bennett, who married Sara Hart. This will gave the farm to his wife Anne during her lifetime, with a codicil providing that she should have only one-third if she married again, "subject nevertheless to the maintenance, support and education (which suggests youthful age of some) of my children to wit Margaret, Elizabeth, Anne, Thomas, Esther and Sara Hart." Land and personal property were to be sold after the death of wife Anne and equal portions given to the children.

Sara Hart, daughter of Thomas Hart Junior, married John Daniels on March 7, 1807. She died March 7, 1814,

a victim of an epidemic of typhus fever in the Hart home. Thomas Hart (the third) had contracted the fever at a tavern in Ellicott City, Md., when returning from delivery of a load of wheat to Baltimore. The first to succumb was Thomas Hart, on January 30, 1814. His mother, Anne, who had married George Smallwood, died February 24, and his sister Hester, or Esther, died March 8. It is probable that all were buried on the farm, though it appears that no gravestone there before 1830 now bears a decipherable inscription.

On June 12, 1816 John Daniels got full possession of the Hart-Daniels farm through certain transactions with the executor of his father-in-law's will. Its Hart line of descent was preserved by the second marriage of John Daniels. His second wife, Nancy Bennett, daughter of Sara Hart and Mason Bennett, was a first cousin of Sara Hart, his first wife.

The 1834 will of John Daniels shows that his children were John H. Daniels and Lydia H. Daniels Miller; Sally B. (or Sara), who married John McGarry; Catherine B.; Nancy B., who married William Buckles; Mary B., William B., Dennis M. and Benjamin F. The will provided "when youngest child is 21, either a division or sales from some heirs to others without permitting any part to go out of the family."

Evidently the youngest child reached the age of 21 by February 10, 1852, for on that date William B. Daniels, son of Nancy Bennett, of Hart descent, and of John Daniels, began buying out the other eight heirs, at $930 each, though it required about eight years to complete the transactions.

When William B. Daniels died on February 28, 1887, aged 64 years and 4 months, his obituary in the weekly **Baltimorean** told of his holding a chief clerkship in the Treasury Department during President Buchannan's administration, which position he resigned to join the Confederate army, and also of his being elected president of the Jefferson County Court about eight years before his death. Surviving him were his wife, Lucretia; daughter Rose E. (Mrs. I. C.) Haas, of Baltimore; and sons William C. Daniels and Dr. J. B. Daniels.

Lucretia Daniels, the widow, died March 27, 1903, and then William C. Daniels began buying out the other heirs of his father.

On March 23, 1920, his wife Bettie J. Hendricks having died a year earlier, William C. Daniels sold 20 acres of

the farm to his son J. Hendricks Daniels, the deed saying "improved by brick manor house and other buildings, not including the barn and granary." This "brick manor house" had been built in 1910, about the time J. Hendricks Daniels married. The will of J. Hendricks Daniels, who died November 24, 1937, left all he possessed to his wife Lula Mae Daniels and then to their son Howard Kenneth Daniels, now living in Vienna, Va.

When William C. Daniels died June 26, 1937, the other 117 acres of the Hart-Daniels farm descended to son J. Hendricks and daughter Lucretia, who had married Marion E. Gano. One-half interest in this part having been devised to Mrs. J. Hendricks Daniels, she proceeded to buy the other half interest from Lucretia Gano on June 23, 1939.

It would appear that the Thomas Hart Senior house, built by 1755, was on the present Gilbert Hendricks farm, and that the Thomas Hart Junior house, built by 1775, was on the present J. Hendricks Daniels farm. About 1945 Mrs. Daniels had an old tenant house torn down, a weatherboarded log structure, with two rooms, a hall and a kitchen downstairs, and three rooms upstairs. It had housed the John Daniels family and possibly the second Thomas Hart family before that, though there is at least a vague tradition that the first house was destroyed by fire.

Howard K. Daniels is to be the next owner of this Hart-Daniels Farm. His two children — Diane Catherine, nearly four years old, and Holly Melissa, eleven months old — are a little too young to be thrilled by the thought that they are of the eighth generation in the Hart-Daniels line which has held the place for more than 202 years.

— A. D. K.

Locust Hill (1771)

This farm, now containing 223 acres, is situated about three miles west of Charles Town on the road to Middleway. Much of its area was included in the 431 acres Samuel Washington bought from Samuel Worthington in 1771.

After the death of Samuel Washington in 1781, the land was held jointly by his heirs till a division in 1806, when it was allotted to his son George Steptoe Washington. From the latter's death in 1809 the property was

held again in a joint tenancy until a division in 1828 gave it to his son Dr. Samuel Walter Washington, who died in 1831.

Lucy Elizabeth Washington, eldest child of Dr. Samuel Walter Washington, married John William Bainbridge Packett in 1840. Locust Hill, a portion of the Harewood estate, was allotted to her in 1842 in a division of her father's estate. She was a fourth generation owner.

John William Bainbridge Packett died in 1872 and Lucy Elizabeth Washington Packett in 1880, when the tract passed to their sons, William Bainbridge Packett and George Washington Packett. In 1934 George Washington Packett died, having willed his half interest in Locust Hill to his brother. William Bainbridge Packett died in 1935, leaving the estate to his son and daughter. The daughter, Frances Davenport Packett, who had married Augustine Jacquelin Todd, purchased her brother's half interest in 1937 and continues as the sixth generation owner of Locust Hill.

A description of the mansion house and references to historical events connected with Locust Hill may be found in the December 1945 Magazine of the Jefferson County Historical Society.

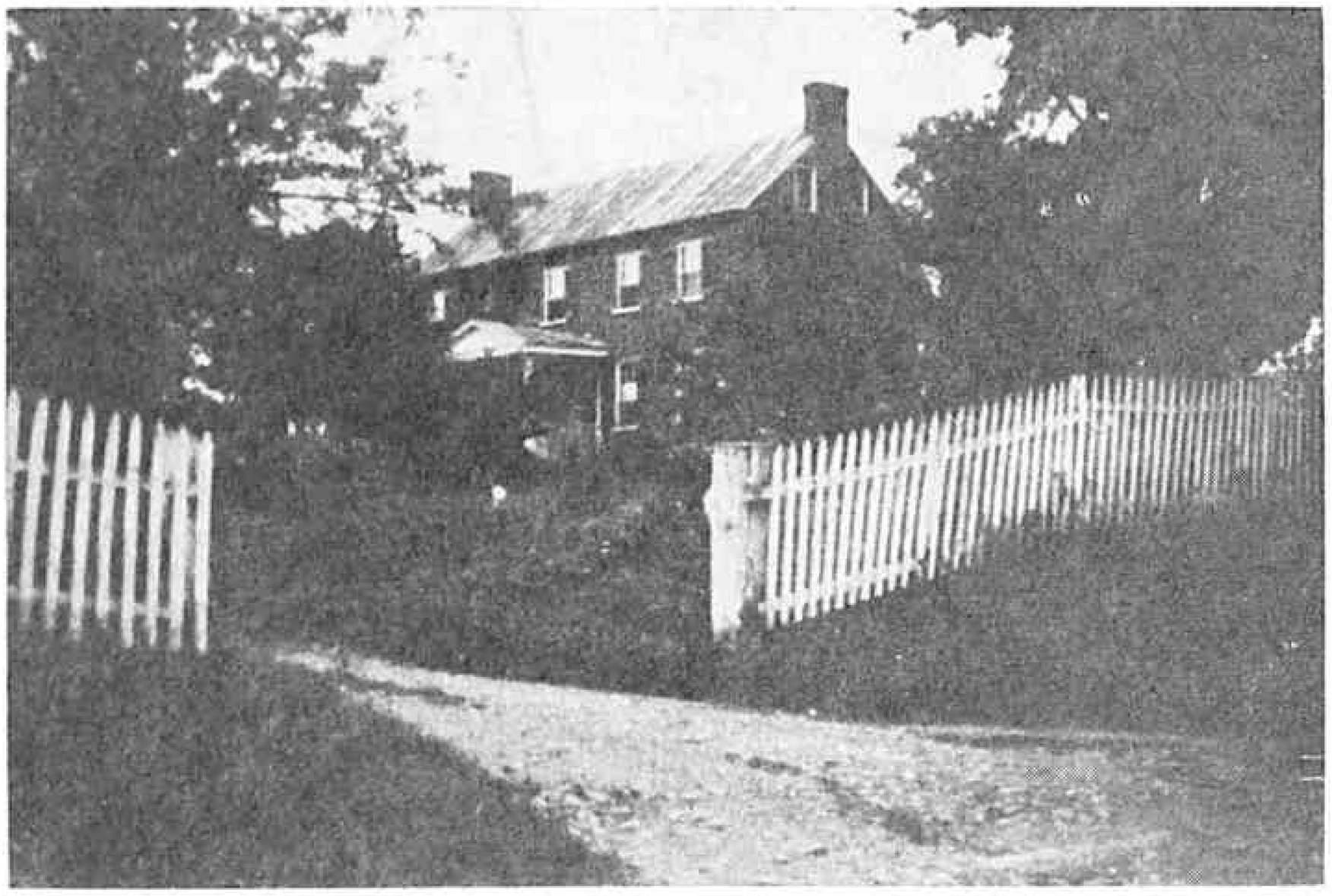
Robert W. McCormick's Fairview (1790)

(By Colonel Robert L. Bates)

The farm owned by Robert W. McCormick, on the south side of highway midway between Middleway and Summit Point, is known as the Fairview Farm. It is contiguous to the Bear Garden tract. Both of these properties were formerly in possession of Mr. McCormick's forebears. As these two tracts were merged over a hundred years ago and then separated the ownership history of both is in order.

Fry Land

"Waste and ungranted lands" of old Frederick County were parceled out among settlers by Lord Fairfax, the owner. On March 16, 1763, a tract of 172 acres was granted to Lodowick Fry (Book M, p. 144, Northern Neck Grants, Virginia Land Office, Richmond, Va.) who, with his wife, Catherine, and family were now in the Valley. Like other permanent settlers he acquired more land by purchase including a tract previously granted by Governor Gooch to one Thomas Johnson on October 3, 1734.



Bear Garden, the old Fry Home

The Johnson tract was Bear Garden, and so designated in the conveyance, deriving its name, according to legend, from a spring where bears wallowed frequently and in numbers.

Lodowick Fry (b. circ. 1733) died in 1804 leaving land and slaves to be divided among a large family. David Fry (1761-1844), a son, was purchaser as well as inheritor of Fry properties. This David Fry married Barbara Houseman (1760-1815). To this union two sons were born, Lewis and Daniel. Lewis Fry died when a young man leaving Daniel the heir presumptive to Fry properties whose children actually became the inheritors though Daniel Fry became a large land owner in his own right. Daniel Fry (1784-1821) was an astute business man who owned besides parental lands (indicated on the S. Howell Brown Map, 1852, that now hangs in the County Clerk's Office in Charles Town), a mercantile establishment in Smithfield and a mill on Opequon Creek (indicated on Brown's map).

The town, Smithfield, was incorporated by an act of the Virginia Assembly in 1798. Some confusion with the mail immediately arose as there was already a Smithfield on the James River. To avoid this confusion Middleway was the name given to this town in Jefferson County when the Federal Government resolved to establish a

post office. This Daniel Fry was selected as the first postmaster and his service began on January 1, 1807 (U. S. Post Office Department records). His business activities centered around his home in Middleway, reputed to have been the Nelson R. Roberts home of a more recent date. He acquired land from Moses Smith (D. B. 4, p. 557), Benjamin Bell in 1809 (D. B. 5, p. 172), George Fry in 1809 (D. B. 5, p. 291), a second purchase from Benjamin Bell in 1810 (D. B. 6, p. 18), David Puls in 1812 (D.B. 7, p. 237), Abram Bell in 1814 (D. B. 8, p. 514) and John Frier in 1818 (D. B. 10, p. 374). It will be noted that Bell lands were being incorporated into Fry holdings.

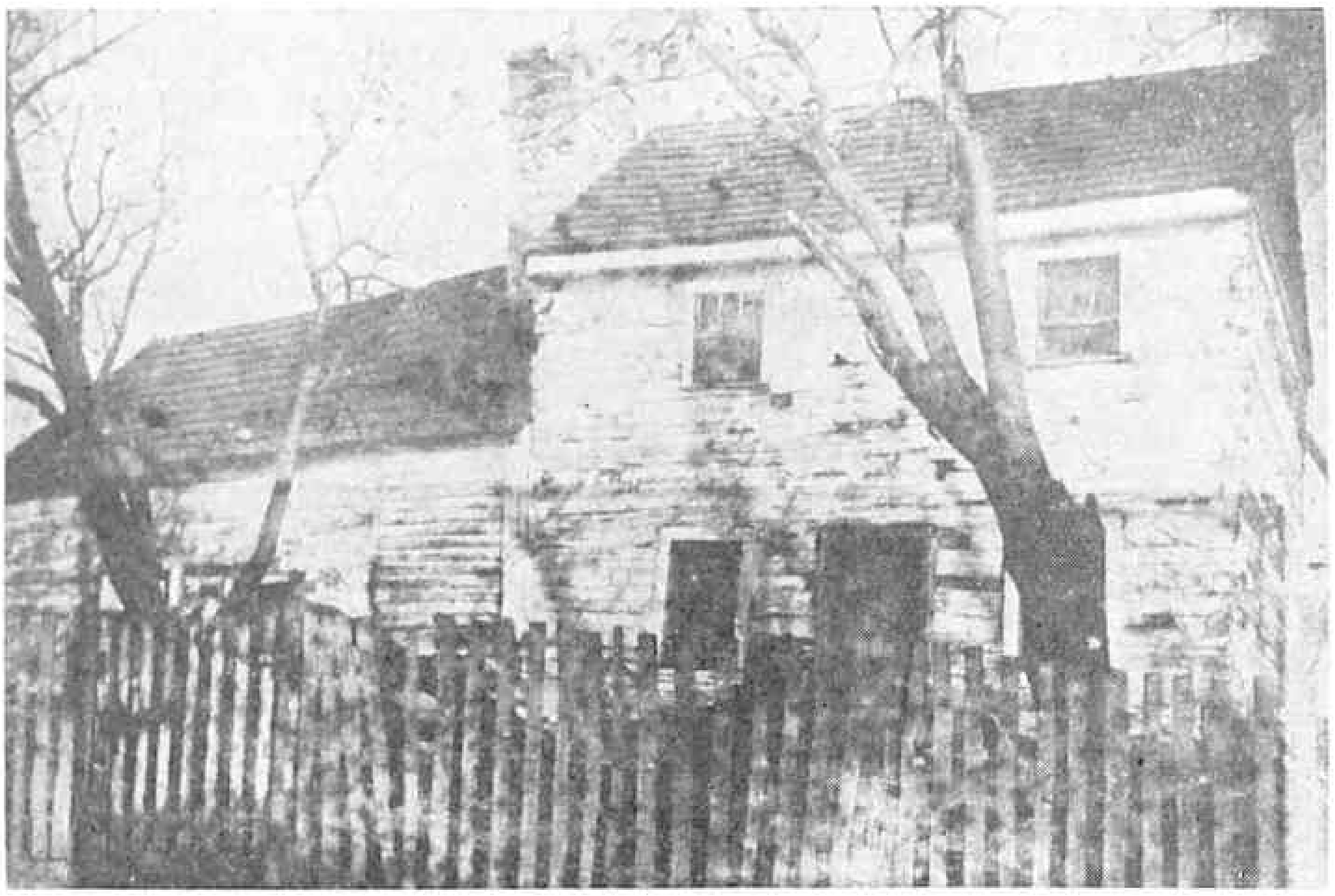
Daniel Fry's will, made January 12, with a codicil of January 18, 1821, was proved September 24, 1821. Lydia (Bell) Fry, wife of Daniel Fry, and daughter of Joseph Bell, was made sole beneficiary with instruction to sell all property except farm lands and, under the will, was directed out of proceeds to acquire more land upon the advice of his father, David Fry, and her husband's friends, Carver Willis and Joseph Bell, Jr. Upon their advice the Bell tract was taken over by the Daniel Fry Estate thus making a large plantation (indicated on the Brown map). Daniel Fry and Lydia (Bell) Fry, his wife, had five children — Elizabeth, Rebecca, David, Lewis and George. Our records here are concerned only with the property of Rebecca Fry.

Bell Land

On April 27, 1767, one Joseph Bell married a widow named Rebecca (Edwards) Worrell (Records of St. Michael's Lutheran Church of Philadelphia, Pa. and Pennsylvania Marriage Records, Vol. 2). Between this date and 1790, he and his family moved to the lands adjoining Bear Garden and there, by purchase, secured several tracts, in all, amounting to 570 acres.

Joseph Bell, in his will, dated March 13, 1822, codicil February 11, 1824, proved May 24, 1824 (Will Book 4, p. 136) gave to Lydia (Bell) Fry, his daughter and wife of Daniel Fry, her one eighth interest in his property, and directed that his estate be sold, but not immediately, and appointed his son, Joseph Bell, Jr., as his executor.

The Bell property was eventually sold, the purchaser being Lydia (Bell) Fry. This conveyance bore the date June 8, 1831 (D. B. 17, p. 180) and was for 527 acres. On page 183 of this record, Joseph Bell, Jr., then the executor, made the conveyance more certain in a supplementary deed by stipulating how Joseph Bell, Sr., got his



Home of Joseph Bell, built about 1790

land: On January 2, 1790, he bought land from one John Dawkins and Nancy, his wife; tracts from Simeon Hiatt and William Smith both bearing the date of January 2, 1790; land from Joseph Crane, February 28, 1798; a grant from the Commonwealth of Virginia, November 28, 1801; and other properties.

Properties Consolidated

By 1831, much of the Fry lands and Bell lands were in the possession of Lydia (Bell) Fry, the properties designated as "Daniel Fry's Heirs" on Brown's map. But a division was eventually made with David Fry, son of Daniel and Lydia (Bell) Fry, getting the Bear Garden tract; and their daughter, Rebecca (Fry) (Beckham) Wigginton, the wife of Dr. Benjamin Wigginton, getting mostly Bell lands as her share of the Daniel Fry Estate.

Rebecca (Fry) (Beckham) Wigginton had two children living to adulthood — James Daniel Wigginton (1840-1908) who married Mary (Mollie) Barnes daughter of Nathan Barnes and Mary (Grantham) Barnes, and Elizabeth Barbara Wiggington (1845-1938). Elizabeth B. Wigginton married Dr. Joseph Seibert (1832-1875). She retained possession of her land acquiring, in the meantime by purchase, her brother James' interest.

Elizabeth (Wigginton) Seibert had a daughter, Katherine Josephine Seibert (1873 —), now living in San Diego, California, who got the land by inheritance. She married Commander (U. S. N.) Charles McCormick who

died in 1933. Robert Wigginton McCormick, her son, became the owner of parts of the old Bell and Fry plantations. Robert W. McCormick (1906 —)married Ruby Clyde Adams of Greenville, Alabama, the daughter of Ira D. Adams and Pearl (Fitzgerald) Adams. The McCormick farm now consists of 270 acres and is known as the Fairview Farm.

Wood End (1804)

Wood End, lying two miles north of Summit Point, is now only a part of a larger tract known by that name which has come down through the Baylor-Shirley line. The nucleus of the earlier Wood End was a tract of 198 acres obtained by Richard Garnett Baylor on March 26, 1804, from Lawrence Washington. To this tract Richard Baylor added 119 acres of adjoining land on September 25, 1811, also by purchase from Lawrence Washington. These acres do not add up to the 364 with which the combined tract was later credited, but a survey made in August 1850, said it contained the larger acreage.

When Richard Garnett Baylor died in 1822, Wood End went to his son Robert William Baylor, who built the present house of log and brick about 1835. Robert William Baylor, a Colonel in the Civil War, died in 1883, leaving all he possed to his wife. After her death his property was to be divided between Julia Shirley, George Baylor, Tilden G. Baylor, Henry B. Baylor, Charles E. Baylor, and Mary S. Aisquith.

Julia Shirley, born Julia Baylor, was the wife of Robert Vinson Shirley, after whose death, by a division of his lands in 1915, Wood End was obtained by his five daughters, granddaughters of Robert William Baylor — Matilda V., Mary M., Margaret S., Julia B., and Ruth A. Shirley.

Wood End was cut into two parts when the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad passed through the farm in 1834. The first house on the place was a casualty of the railroad's coming, and it was then that Robert Baylor built the present house. He built the barn in 1859.

Julia B. Shirley, Ruth A. Shirley, and their three sisters, or in time heritors of the latter three, continued ownership of both parts of Wood End from 1915 to 1952, when they made two sales disposing of the two parts.

The part east of the railroad was sold out of the family, to James E. Senseny, on February 7, 1952.

The part west of the railroad, consisting of 192 acres, was kept in the family when Julia B. Shirley et al. sold it to Julia Grantham Shirley, great-granddaughter of Robert Baylor, on December 22, 1952.

— J. G. S.

Mountain View (1805)

This farm, now containing 156 acres, lies about a mile and a half southeast of Uvilla and on the north side of what was known as the Keeptryst Furnace road in the 1800's.

First in the five generation line of owners was Mathias Swagler, who married Jacob Miller's daughter Margaret. On April 9, 1805 he purchased from Philip Strider 61 acres, part of a 1763 Fairfax grant to George Houte. A tracing of subsequent acquisitions make it evident that Mathias Swagler had a homestead of 100 acres. Records are lacking to account definitely for the 39 acres over and above the 61 purchased from Philip Strider. However, there is evidence in the Berkeley County clerk's office of a Houte to Swagler transfer between 1797 and 1800, which would have been recorded in the lost deed book, No. 14, at page 314.

This farm was inherited by Jacob Swagler, son of Mathias, in 1840. On May 14, 1823 Jacob Swagler had bought 30 acres from Silas Melvin, and on October 16, 1846 he bought 26 acres from Isaac Dust. These tracts adjoined the Mathias Swagler acres. So, when Jacob Swagler died in 1863, he had these 156 acres, and an adjoining tract of 100 acres, to leave to his daughter, Mary Virginia, who had married John Troxell Henkle.

The 156 acre tract now constitutes the Mountain View farm. As a matter of detail, Jacob Swagler had bought 100 acres, adjoining on the east side, from John Strider in 1844, but his grandson, Charles C. Henkle, sold off these 100 acres to Isaac Kidwiler in 1909.

Charles C. Henkle was not the sole inheritor of John Troxell Henkle, or rather of Mary Swagler Henkle, who outlived her husband by eight years, dying in 1890. On May 1, 1891 Charles C. Henkle bought the interests of the other heirs — his brothers, Daniel G., Jacob S., and William J., and his sister, Ann C. Alexander, widow of Dr. Wm. F. Alexander.

Charles C. Henkle died in 1931, and his widow, Lillie Bell Cockrill, in 1938. Since the latter date Mountain

View, containing 156 acres, has been held by the heirs of Charles C. Henkle — Kathleen Henkle Miller, Mary Henkle Grayson, and Elizabeth Henkle Welch.

The main dwelling on the farm has nine rooms, partly log and partly frame. An older house of Jacob Swagler's time has four rooms and has been a tenant house for the past 75 years.

To the east of the main dwelling and north of the tenant house is a family burial ground, around which Mathias Swagler built a stone wall, still maintained in good condition. The graves of the following are found therein: Mathias Swagler, 1755-1840, and his wife Margaret, 1766-1834; Margaret Swagler's brother, William Miller, 1783-1868; Margaret Swagler, 1820-1822; Jacob Swagler, 1785-1863, and Ann Swagler, 1792-1822; John T. Henkle, 1810-1882, his wife Margaret Swagler, 1818-1890, and son John H. Henkle, 1852-1880. The tombstone inscriptions carry more detail than is here given.

— H. L. A.

Gruber Farm (1807)

This farm two-and-a-half miles south of Middleway along the road to Summit Point has never been given a special name for the sake of glamour. It has been simply the Gruber farm for the past 150 years.

Recorded in the Jefferson County Court House is found a deed dated March 2, 1807, by which 235 acres of land were conveyed to Albright Groover, a native of Berks County, Pa., by Nicholas Shaull and Henry Seibert, Executors for Michael Puls, deceased. Witnesses: Wm. Stevenson, Benj. Bell, Sebastian Eaty. The purchase price was $4,227.65. This land had been conveyed to Michael Pulse by John Briscoe on January 9, 1788.

Albright Gruber, by will proved April 26, 1825 (Will Book 5, page 4), gave explicit directions as to the rights of his wife Susannah in the home for the rest of her life, and his three sons, Jacob, John and Adam, were named as executors. After her death all his possessions were to be equally divided among his three above mentioned sons and his four daughters, Katherine, Susannah, Elizabeth and Polly.

It was about this time that two commodious houses were built on the land for John and Jacob. The home place came into the possession of Adam Gruber and there he resided until his death in 1849 .

Adam's son, Solomon Gruber, then became owner, and he successfully farmed the place for 42 years, living in the original house. It was perhaps during his tenure that the other two houses were sold out of the family. Solomon Gruber died in 1891.

In Will Book B, page 238, is found Solomon Gruber's will, as follows:

To my daughter Annie Margaret Ashwood I give all my real and personal property except my watch to Lena B. Ashwood and the law book is to go to C. W. and J. M. Gruber. After the death of Annie Margaret Ashwood I bequeath to her children, if any survive her, if not the property is to go back to the Gruber heirs. Administrator A. Margaret Ashwood. Witnesses: Chas. W. and Jos. M. Gruber.

Annie Margaret Ashwood soon left the farm to reside in Martinsburg and sold her life interest in 1909 to Frank and George Gruber, who are sons of Josiah Gruber, a cousin of Solomon.

Upon the death of Mrs. Ashwood in 1923 her surviving children, one son and two daughters, became owners, but sold out to Frank Gruber, who continued to farm the place until 1936.

In 1938 Geo. Gruber and his only son, Joseph, purchased the entire estate from Frank Gruber, and also, in 1952, repurchased the home and tract of 124 acres which had been the inheritance of John Gruber, great grandfather of Joseph.

Joseph Gruber has converted into cattle raising and general farming and successfully farms the place with the help of a tenant in the old house, which is just as it was 151 years ago.

A sixth generation of Grubers is growing up and in time will inherit the farm and thus continue the Gruber ownership.

— Florine B. Lyne

Willow Grove (1819)

This farm of 99.01 acres lies just west of Duffields and south of the old Duffields to Brown's Shop Road, most of it north of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. It is now owned by the Alice Link Osbourn Heirs. Two small adjoining tracts purchased by Alice Link Osbourn from the heirs of Henry Ronemous in 1907 have not been consolidated with Willow Grove on the County Land Books.

This farm came into possession of the Link-Osbourn line on October 13, 1819, when Adam Link purchased 110 acres on Elk Branch from Anna and John B. Henry. Two years before his death Adam Link sold the place, consisting of 101 acres of his purchase from Henry to his son Alexander Link (John Alexander Link, Sr.), deed dated March 12, 1833. In the meantime Adam Link had added to his holdings other tracts extending northeastward.

After Alexander Link's death there was a deed of partition dated September 3, 1877, by which four of his heirs were allotted each a portion of the Willow Grove tract, then designated as the "Home Tract." His son John A. Link (John Alexander, Jr.) was allotted a portion in the southeast corner of the "Home Tract," a small lot on which was located the family dwelling. During the year 1878 John A. Link bought out the other three heirs, thus becoming the owner of the whole of the present Willow Grove farm by October 9, 1878. The farm then had only 99 plus acres, since the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad right of way had cut off two acres in 1839.

John A. Link died in 1897, and after the death of his widow in 1903, th place passed to their sole heir, Alice Link, who had married James Burr Osbourn. Now the farm is held by the joint heirs of Alice Link Osbourn, of whom there are three genrations.

The present seven-room stone dwelling was built about 1834. The original house was a small log structure built by Melchoir Engle shortly after he got a Fairfax grant of 397 acres on January 1, 1754. Winfield S. H. Engle, author of the 1940 "The Melchoir Engle Family," says there is a tradition that Melchoir Engle built a fort around a never failing spring, that his son Philip built a larger house on a stone foundation, 22 by 30 feet, with 6 or 7 rooms and a basement, and that this house was later weatherboarded. No trace of these log structures now remains.

So this is land originally held by Melchoir Engle, who added to his 397 acre Fairfax grant a tract of 105 acres purchased on June 4, 1754. He thus was able to leave a tract of 100 acres to each of his five sons, Philip getting a second of these tracts when his brother William died.

The Adam Link purchase in 1819 consisted of 100 acres of Philip Engle land and 10 acres of Michael Engle land. The successive owners between the Engles and Adam Link were Robert Lowry, James Young and John B. Henry.

The Catarina Beierlin Story

The site of the Willow Grove dwelling and the spring nearby are of particular interest, for about them have been woven the **Catarina Beierlin** stories. Two of these stories have been attempts to show that Catarina Beierlin, aged 21 years, died there in 1707. Her tombstone, the dates on which old Dr. Scott had read as 1686-1707, stood a short distance therefrom on higher land, in the Engle-Ronemous graveyard. This stone was removed to the State Department of Archives and History in 1900.

One story has it that she was killed by Indians when she went to the spring for water. Another has it that she was a member of a family on its way to settle somewhere, possibly North Carolina, and that she took sick and died while her family was camped there. Thus far no records have been discovered either to prove or disprove these stories.

But even in 1900 the 1707 date was protested, on the ground that there was little likelihood that settlers were either there or passing through there that early or that Indians were troublesome at that time. It was urged by some that the 1707 date was more likely 1757. On the assumption that Catarina Beierlin died in 1757, aged 71 years, there has recently developed a plausible but unproved story that she was the mother of Melchoir Engle. There are some points in its favor. She was buried in the graveyard set apart by Melchoir Engle between 1754 and 1760, a graveyard in which all others were related to him by blood or marriage. "The Melchoir Engle Family" history says that Melchoir Engle's mother, Catherine Engle, was married a second time, to a man named Beyerle or Beierle, and suggests that his mother probably came with him to Elk Branch some time between September 1752 and January 1754. J. M. Engle, writing in 1904, said of Catarina Beierlin that, "it is believed she came from Pennsylvania with either the Engle or Darke families."

In those days there were varied spellings of names, so that Beyerle and Beierle, or Catherine or Catharina or Catarina, need not prove disturbing. And for that matter neither need the difference between Beierlin and Beierle. In those days "in" was a German name suffix indicating feminine gender, not unfamiliar to Jefferson countians whose ancestors were named Hentzel and Hentzelin or Linck and Linckin.

One of the older stories had it that Catarina Beierlin was killed by Indians. Since the Indians were troublesome during the French and Indian war rather than in 1707, further support is given to the belief that she died in 1757.

So, it is plausible that the famous tombstone should be read Catarina Beierlin 1686-1757, that she was the mother of Melchoir Engle, and that with her burial he started a graveyard on his farm. Since Henry Ronemous, who married an Engle, owned the land surrounding the burial plat in 1900, when the tombstone was removed to Charleston, it has since then been generally referred to as the Ronemous Graveyard at Duffields.

— A. D. K.

Cherry Lake (1820)

This farm of 165½ acres lies in the southwest quadrant formed by the intersection of the Shepherdstown-Middleway Pike and the road from Charles Town to Inwood. It may be better identified as lying between that intersection and Priests Field, which Adam Livingston deeded in 1802 to three trustees of the Catholic Church for the use of "Father Cahill" in gratitude for the latter's having laid the witches which had so grievously harassed him. A small portion of the original larger tract held by Livingston is included in the Cherry Lake acres.

Cherry Lake farm derives its name from two large ponds and an abundance of large cherry trees about them.

Ownership of the farm is traced back through six generations to Thomas Watson (1775-1861). At the time of his death Thomas Watson held about 1280 acres in the Middleway and Leetown neighborhoods, having begun his land purchases in 1803 and continued them through 1850. Coming from England to the Opequon settlement when a boy, he early began to accumulate some money with a purpose, hoarding his small savings "under the rafters," he told his grandchildren.

Cherry Lake is one of only two of Thomas Watson's farms still owned and occupied by his descendants, the other being the Fairview at Middleway described in the 1956 issue of this Magazine.

When Marian Hirst Martin, whose mother was a Watson, sold the last remnant of the Charles Lee Farm and Prato Rio to Ily Bratina in 1951, its Watson ownership for a little more than 101 years came to an end. In

1850 Thomas Watson, Sr., and his son James had bought the Charles Lee place, then containing 236 acres, at a commissioner's sale. In the same transaction they obtained 67 acres on the other side of the road. Of this, as of other bequests he made, Thomas Watson remarked that "the purchase money was paid altogether by me."

Also once owned and occupied by descendants of Thomas Watson was the Loundes tract of 445 acres, south of Leetown, which he purchased in 1847. This he divided equally between his sons Ephraim and Josiah, who had married sisters Eliza and Anna R. Lock. The location and bounds of their two farms may be noted on the 1883 Howell Brown map.

The Cherry Lake farm was embraced in Thomas Watson's April 1, 1820 purchase of 313 acres. The tract was described as having one corner on Priests Field and another on Kime's.

From this tract, according to his custom when a son or daughter married, he set off a sizeable farm and built, about 1830, a comfortable log house for his son John Watson (1811-1841) and his bride Rebecca Boltz (1809-1881). When later reference is made to a house on the eastern boundary of the farm, it must have been on some land that had come into Rebecca's possession, probably by inheritance.

John Watson died at the age of 30 years, leaving four small children. Twelve years later they inherited the farm by will of their grandfather. Their mother Rebecca continued to live there till her death in 1881. By that time Margaret, George Ephraim, and Lydia (widow of Jos. T. Grantham) had also died, which left her son Thomas Sylvester Watson (1839-1920) sole heir to the 165½ acre farm and all she possessed.

Thomas S. Watson became a member of the "Clarke Cavalry" and served gallantly throughout the Civil War. In 1866 he married Laura Virginia LaMar, but did not live on his inherited property till the last years of his mother's life when she was too old and infirm to live alone. Thus only the last of their six children, Laura Rebecca (1887-), who married George Kercheval and lives at Berryville, was born in the original Watson house.

Laura Rebecca Kercheval and her sister Grace Lee Watson (1869-1899), who married Jos. Morrow, inherited no part of Cherry Lake, receiving money and certain valuable personal property instead. The four sons got the farm when Thomas S. Watson died in 1920.

Two of the sons left the county and state; Eugene Tracey (1874--1937), who married Blanche Rhea, became a dentist in Baltimore, and Wade Brown (1878-), also a dentist, who married Eva Moler, lives in Brunswick, Md.

The other two sons, Oscar Lee and Lynn Montrose, lived in the east house rather than in the original Watson house, the latter being unoccupied for 31 years after the death of their father in 1920.

In 1900 Oscar Lee Watson (1869-1934) enlarged and redecorated the house on the eastern boundary and took up residence with his bride, Ella Jennings, of Middleway. After two years they moved to Charles Town, where they spent the remainder of their lives. One of their daughters, Virginia, married L. P. Hickman, of Lovettsville, Va., and the other, Dorothy, married Owen Conklyn, of Charles Town.

The brother Lynn Montrose Watson (1871-1953) was the next to occupy the east house, when in 1903 he married Bessie Watson, a cousin. Lynn Watson is the one son of Thomas S. Watson who never left the farm. Lynn and Bessie Watson had one son, Lester Lyndon (1905-1940), who married Roberta Childs.

Lester Lyndon Watson's daughter Ruth married Arthur M. Dodson, who on March 15, 1951 purchased from the Watson brothers the entire Cherry Lake estate.

In that same year he sold the east house and two acres of land to Lynn Watson, who had lived there for 48 years. Lynn Watson's widow and the widow Roberta Childs Watson continue to live in the east house, where there is a warm welcome for remaining descendants of Thomas Watson, Sr.

Arthur Dodson has built a large addition to the old Watson house, which had been unoccupied for 31 years, and stuccoed the entire exterior. He has thoroughly modernized the interior, with decoration and the installation of electricity and a water system. In six years of ownership of Cherry Lake he has shown remarkable energy and capability in improving the farm, clearing and enriching the land, building fences and silos, a dairy barn and all the other necessary buildings for the fine dairy herd he has built up.

Arthur Dodson is a veteran of World War II, having served five years in the armed forces. Four of these were in combat duty which took him into England, North Ireland, France, Luxemburg, Belgium and Germany.

Three sons and two daughters of Arthur and Ruth Watson Dodson represent the sixth generation in the Watson line to occupy Cherry Lake.

— Florine B. Lyne

Vinson (1826)

Vinson is a tract of 210 acres two miles east of Middleway and lying on the south side of the Smithfield, Charles Town and Harpers Ferry Turnpike. Prior to 1840 it had been held in combination with a larger tract on the north side of the pike by James Shirley. The combined tract of 538 acres had been bought by James Shirley from Ludwell Lee on January 11, 1826, and named Shirleyn.

By the will of James Shirley, probated February 17, 1840, and by transactions with the other heirs concluded in 1853, his son Robert Vinson Shirley got possession of this farm, which he named Vinson. A small barn and tenant house were then built on this tract, which had been separated from Shirleyn.

Robert Vinson Shirley died in 1914, leaving five contiguous tracts of land south of the Smithfield, Charles Town and Harpers Ferry Turnpike, as follows: Vinson, 209.45 acres; Rock Spring, 214 acres; Owl Hollow, 101.2 acres; Locust Grove, 339.5 acres; and Wood End, 364 acres. On July 1, 1915, this estate of Robert Vinson Shirley was divided, with Vinson being deeded by the other heirs to Henry Garnett Shirley.

When Henry Garnett Shirley died in July, 1941, the farm Vinson was left to his son Robert Vinson Shirley, never married, who makes his home at Locust Grove with his uncle, George T. Shirley.

— J. G. S.

Rippon Home (1842)

This farm of 202 acres lies five miles south of Charles Town. It is bounded on the north by the South Fork of Bullskin Creek, and extends in a southerly direction east of Rippon.

It is now owned by John Lock Burns, Jr., and now is a part of Byrdland Farm where he lives; the old home is now used as a tenant house for Byrdland and Rippon Home farms.

John Lock Burns, Jr., inherited Rippon Home from his father John L. Burns in 1943, who in turn inherited it in 1905, from his father Caleb Burns, who inherited the farm from his wife Amanda Lock Burns in 1868; she was burned to death at a fire at Byrdland at that time. Amanda Locke Burns inherited the farm from her father William French Lock in 1856.

When William French Lock bought this farm from Jane F. Byrd on March 28, 1842, the deed said it contained 226 acres.

— J. B. H.

Belmont (1856)

This farm of 154 acres lies about 400 yards east of Duffields and is now in the possession of Mrs. Warren H. Hunter.

The December 1955 issue of this magazine, in the Album of Historic Homes series, carried a detailed account of Belmont, including a description of the mansion house.

Samuel Wright bought the place on October 1, 1856 to settle thereon his daughter, Mary Ellen, who had been married to James H. L. Hunter the previous year. At her death in 1915 the farm went to her sons, Warren H. and Samuel Hunter. Warren H. Hunter bought out his brother in 1926, and the farm is now held by his widow. The farm is operated by her son James, whose children, James Osbourn, Jr., Ernest McKee, and Ann Hampton, aged eight, six, and four years respectively, are of the fifth generation in a line running back only 101 years.

MORE ABOUT THE TATES

In the story of Head Spring in the December 1956 issue of this magazine it was stated that "it would be a real accomplishment to establish the definite relationship of John Riely to each of the land-holding Tates." Since then several Tate descendants have produced family data and Bible records which show that John Riely of Head Springs was not a half-brother to the children of Magnus Tate II.

In the Berkeley County will books there are three John Rielys, though the spelling is not uniform, and it could be that none of the three for whom there are wills and appraisements was John Riely of Head Spring.

The editor had inferred from records showing that a Presbyterian divine was entertained in the home of "old Mr. Riely" in 1791, that John Riely was then still living, though only Mrs. Riely was named as a participant. As now obtained from family records, John Riely of Head Spring died December 5, 1778, and his wife, Mary Brown, died December 30, 1802.

The John Riely whose will was dated March 31, 1793 was the son of Mary Mae McCormick and Fergus Reily, who may or may not have been related to John Riely of Head Spring. After the death of Fergus Reily in 1757 his widow married Magnus Tate II and had four sons and three daughters by that second marriage.

So, now for the genealogist the following is given.

The first Magnus Tate in America emigrated from the Orkney Islands and landed in Philadelphia May 20, 1696. From there he came to the vicinity of Charles Town. He died in 1747. His wife Honor qualified as administratrix May 2, 1749 and died shortly afterward, when their only child, Magnus Tate II, administered the estate August 16, 1750.

Magnus Tate II was born April 5, 1732 and died in March 1808. On September 26, 1759 he married Mary McCormick, the widow of Fergus Reily. Their children were Mary, born February 2, 1761, who first married an Edmondson, and second Joseph Daughtery; Nancy, born February 15, 1763, who married Francis Stribling in 1785; Margaret, born March 6, 1765, who married Battaile Muse; and sons Magnus Tate III, John, George and William. Magnus Tate II died at Belvidere, near Charles Town, in March 1808. His son William inherited Belvidere. John Humphrey Tate was born at Belvidere on December 26, 1816. Thomas Orkney Tate, son of John Humphrey Tate, was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on June 17, 1865.

Magnus Tate III was born September 1, 1767 and died March 30, 1823. His farm lay two and a half miles southwest from Martinsburg. He left a large family of sons and daughters. He served five years as a member of the Virginia Assembly, but only during his first term did Berkeley County include the present Jefferson. He was high Sheriff of Berkeley for two years and a member of the U. S. Congress from 1815 to 1817.



THE CATARINA BEIERLIN TOMBSTONE

A picture of the Catarina Beierlin tombstone, as it appeared when removed to Charleston by the West Virginia Historical and Antiquarian Society in 1900, is here presented by courtesy of Miss Jane Jones, (six times) great granddaughter of Catherine Engle Beierle and a co-heritor, with her brothers Oscar and Robert, of 87 acres of Melchoir Engle land surrounding the Engle (or Ronemous) graveyard.

The inscription: Hier ruet Catarina Beierlin Gebohren den Jahr ——. (Here rests Catharina Beierlin born in the year ——.) Then follows the basis on which she is said to have been a Christian woman, an 8,7,8,7 stanza from an old German hymn:

Ach wie wird mich Jesus hertzen
Meinen Augen Trost und Licht
Alle Tranen alle Schmertzen
Waschen von dem Angesicht

A fairly literal translation would be:

Oh, how Jesus, comfort and light of my eyes,
Will take me to his heart
(or in his heart's embrace)
Will wash away all tears
All pains (or sorrows) from my face.

The stone is 4 feet 2 inches high, 22 inches wide, and 5 inches thick. Near the top a heart is carved, in relief; near the bottom, on the left hand side, is a skull and crossbones, and on the right, an hour glass, all in relief.

The picture shows that the German, in large English capitals, can be deciphered only with some difficulty. It is now assumed that below the German stanza there was the statement that she died or was buried in the year —. (Gestorben or begraben in den Jahr —.)

RIPON OR RIPPON
A Study in Place Names

When the 1921 Shaw-Whitmer map of Jefferson county gives the name Rippon to the village along the Charles Town and Berryville Pike well toward the Virginia line, and the 1883 Howell Brown map gives it as Ripon, there is cause to wonder.

A touch of romance would be supplied if it could be shown that a landed proprietor in that region had established the village and named it Ripon, because his ancestors had come from a town of that name in England.

Officially, the post office there has been Rippon since December 23, 1852, but it was originally Newburg, having been thus established on October 12, 1852.

It would be a little hasty to assume that Howell Brown was a careless speller, since his 1883 map called the villiage Ripon, when for three decades the post office had been Rippon. He may have been familiar with all that had transpired in that locality along about 1852, when, as shown by the county map of that date, only the Barney Ott Shop was there.

And thereby hangs a tale, which some of the Rippon folk have had handed down to them by their grandfathers. Antedating the Rippon Grange by a little more than two decades, a Farmers' Alliance held its meetings in Barney Ott's Shop. In the course of time the farmers had a little difference, either financial or policy making or both. One farmer spoke out in meeting, saying he was getting out, he was through. As for his attitude toward the organization, he said, "Let Her Rip." To this another farmer, favoring continuance of the alliance, responded "Let Her Rip On."

So, it could well be that Howell Brown put Ripon on his 1883 map, mindful of the "Rip On" episode, and disregarding the fact that the post office had been officially named Rippon about thirty years earlier.

That official spelling had assured a short vowel in a first syllable without denying the villagers a right to put equal emphasis on the second syllable, and, so, Rippon could be pronounced "Rip On." That is detail lost to history. Petitions and correspondence which might have referred to the naming of the post office in 1852 are not among the records in the custody of the National Archives in Washington. Those belong to the type of records authorized for disposal by action of the Congress.

THE RUMSEY ANNIVERSARY AT SHEPHERDSTOWN

Belief in James Rumsey's right to fame as the inventor of the steamboat was considerably enhanced by a program of addresses and river demonstrations at Shepherdstown on Saturday, September 21. The 170th anniversary of James Rumsey's demonstration of a steamboat using water jet propulsion was then being celebrated. As Keenan Hanley, of Prospect, Ohio, retraced Rumsey's 1787 course on the Potomac, he was using a sleek 1957 model of a boat operating on the principle devised so long ago by the Shepherdstown inventor.

In a short address at the Rumsey Monument, prior to his river demonstration, Mr. Hanley, as a designer and builder of boats, not only acknowledged his indebtedness to James Rumsey; he said that Rumsey, "one of the outstanding geniuses of all times, left us an American heritage in his design. Rumsey developed two things in his boat: a steam engine, and a hydrojet system whereby pistons, powered by steam, pulled water into the keel of a boat and pumped it out at the rear at high speed, to provide forward motion."

Today Hanley's boats, using gasoline or diesel engines instead of steam, are propelled by the same hydrojet process, and are widely used, in this country and abroad, by the U. S. Coast Guard, as pleasure craft, and as ferry boats such as the "Jubal Early" boat operated at White's Ferry on the Potomac just below Leesburg.

After Rumsey's untimely death his principle was long overlooked. Boat builders superseding him turned to paddle propulsion of side wheeler or other design. Yet, as Congressman Harley O. Staggers, of West Virginia's second district, pointed out in an address on "West Virginia's Pride in James Rumsey," the Shepherdstown inventor "turned a page in the history of navigation."

That is the page to which Mr. Hanley has reverted. His river demonstration on this 170th anniversary, using a 1957 adaptation of Rumsey's water jet propulsion, showed clearly that James Rumsey's boat operated on a sound principle. Only his death before he had time to put his boat into commercial use prevented James Rumsey from being then as widely acclaimed as he deserved.

ELLA MAY TURNER (1876-1957)

Founder of the Jefferson County Historical Society

Miss Ella May Turner, who organized the Jefferson County Historical Society in May 1927 and held the office of corresponding secretary in the society continuously from its beginning, passed away on August 2, 1957 in King's Daughters Hospital in Martinsburg, where she had been a patient since November 1954.

Miss Turner was born July 1, 1876, near Scrabble in Jefferson County. Her great-great-grandfather had settled on a land grant in that region. She was the daughter of Thomas and Annie Snyder Turner.

She was graduated from Shepherd College State Normal School in 1895; received an A.B. degree from West Virginia University in 1906, and an A.M. in 1911; and was a graduate student for several terms, both in Cornell University and George Peabody College for Teachers.

She taught several terms in the public schools, including the Oak Grove School in Berkeley county; was an assistant in the training school at Marshall College; and served a spring term as instructor in Glenville State Normal School. She was a member of the faculty of Shepherd College from 1907 to 1945, being head of the English department for 32 years.

The 1922 'Cohongoroota," the Shepherd College yearbook, in its dedication to Miss Turner, commented on her zeal for scholarly attainment and her great personal interest in students.

For a quarter of a century she made a substantial contribution to the Shepherd College Student Loan Fund and brightened Christmas for every girl in the West Virginia Industrial Home for Girls at Salem. By the provisions of her will a considerable portion of her estate will be used for a trust fund with which to provide scholarships at Shepherd College.

Miss Turner edited and compiled "Stories and Verse of West Virginia," first published in 1923 and running to a third edition in 1940. Her "West Virginia Verse of Today" appeared in 1924. Her "James Rumsey, Pioneer in Steam Navigation" was a monumental piece of research. The authoritative nature of this work on James Rumsey was recognized abroad, in Denmark and other

European countries, and her publication was given favorable review in the London Times.

She was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in recognition of her scholarly attainments and to Kappa Delta Pi as a tribute to her service in the cause of education. For her literary talents she was accorded membership in the National League of American Pen Women.

Miss Turner travelled extensively, in Europe and the Americas, sought out the background of British and American writers, and did a great deal of research relating to the history of Shepherdstown and Jefferson county.