

BA-133

Bellefield
North side of Western Run
Rd. east of Cuba Rd.
Not Accessible
Circa 1820

0 - 100

Bellefield was one of the homes of Jesse Scott who operated the tannery at Pleasant Prospect (q.v.) It was erected between 1818 and 1823, as evidenced by tax records of those years. Scott's daughter, Rebecca, and her husband, Dr. Louis Griffith, inherited the property and expanded it in 1842.

The attached smokenhouse is unusual for this region.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Bellefield

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

North side of Western Run Road east of Cuba Road ¹⁹⁰⁰

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

William Boucher III

Telephone #: 771-4337

STREET & NUMBER

Western Run Road

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21030

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #: 3912

Folio #: 276

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Baltimore County Landmarks

DATE

1971

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Baltimore County Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

BA-188

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Bellefield is a rubble stone house of two storeys, five bays in length. Its principal front is to the south and a two bay stone wing of matching or continuous form is added to its west end. Flush chimneys of stone rise from each end of the earlier section and from the west end of the west wing; the continuous roof is gabled. A one and one-half storey service wing, four bays in length, extends north behind the west end of the earlier section of the front. Its interior stone chimney rises from the approximate center of its gabled roof.

Traditionally, the north wing is considered the oldest portion of this dwelling, due to its smaller scale and more primitive detailing. Its south end wall is the north wall of the main house and there is no architectural evidence suggesting that the north wing - at least its southerly half - is anything but contemporaneous with the main house. The northerly half of the north wing was added to the southerly half, perhaps at a very early date. Only the west wing has a datestone, high in its west gable:

R.
L. G.
1842.

The general form and detailing of the earlier section suggests a construction date of ca. 1815-1825.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES Unknown BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bellefield, located on the north side of Western Run Road east of Cuba Road, was the home of Jesse Scott, a Quaker whose father, Abraham Scott II, came into Baltimore County in the mid-eighteenth century and purchased this land and other nearby property to establish a mill. (See "Regulation", "Rosedale" and "Pleasant Prospect".)

Jesse Scott's 1818 taxes indicate that he owned this farm, but it was not until the 1823 tax that he was assessed for improvements here. The dwelling was inherited by a daughter, Rebecca, who had married Dr. Louis Griffith, and it is their combined initials on the gable of the west wing that indicate they built the addition in 1842.

In 1883, the property was sold by the son of Louis and Rebecca Griffith to John Bond, and it remained in his family until 1927. The present owners bought the house from Ivan Marty in 1961.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baltimore Count Tax Assessments: 1818, 1823.
Scott Family Chart, Maryland Historical Society.
(See Continuation Sheet #5)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 35 acres ±

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION

For Valleys Historical District Project

DATE

September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

1114 Bellemore Road

TELEPHONE

323-3798

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Continuation Sheet #1

Question #7 continued

The principal entrance, with its transom, is centered on the south front, sheltered by a three-bay hipped-roof porch. Windows are 9/6 in the first storey, 6/6 in the second, and are flanked by louvred blinds. The north facade of the earlier portion of this house is expressed as three bays, and the west wing as one. A window at mid-storey height on the north facade marks the stair landing inside. Masonry above openings is supported by large, roughly worked stone lintels and sills are of similar stone. Detailing of the west wing is nearly identical to that of the main house and its entrance is through its easterly bay of its south front, sheltered by a simple bracketed hood. Two similar 9/6 windows flanking the chimney pierce the first storey of the west end, and a pair of four-light casements flank each chimney in the gables.

Three dormer windows, about equally spaced in the southerly roof slope, light the attic storey - two in the earlier section and one in the west wing. Traditional mouldings of the simple wood cornice return against the stone at each end and the flat barge boards are against the masonry of the gables, all in original form. The roof is covered with standing-seam tin over wood shingles.

The southerly half of the north wing is the original kitchen; its exterior entrances are in its south bay on both sides. The easterly roof slope extends beyond the wall, supported by the cantilevered ceiling joists; above is a single shed-roofed dormer.

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

Continuation Sheet #2

Question #7 continued

The northerly half of the north wing was, originally, the smoke-house. The joint in the stone wall, and the irregularity in the roof, indicate it as a slightly later addition. Three pierced brick vents, each in the shape of an hourglass, ventilate the interior through the north wall, and a photograph published in the reference cited in Paragraph 9 shows that two similar vents were through the west wall in voids now filled with pairs of four-light casements. A door and a similar window (presumably originally a brick vent) are through the east side, and it is the only entrance to this space.

The floor plans are typical: a center hall with the principal staircase rising, with intermediate landings, to the unfinished third floor; a single room flanking the hall on either side, each with a fireplace; the original kitchen in the southerly half of the north wing with an enclosed straight stair rising against its south wall and a large fireplace fitted for cooking; a single large room in the west wing with a small entry partitioned out of it at its south entrance. Most interior detailing is original and unaltered: the staircase with its slim turned newel and rectangular balusters supporting the round cherry rail; the two-plane architraves with a triple-bead at the change in planes, and a small backband; the six-paneled doors with partially-raised panels; the chair rail throughout; the mantels with their plain engaged columns supporting a paneled frieze and cornice shelf in the first storey examples, and in the second storey, an architrave surround with paneled frieze and cornice

(See Continuation Sheet #3)

Continuation Sheet #3

Question #7 continued

shelf; and the cupboards with their paneled doors beside the chimney breast in the room south of the kitchen, indicating it to be the original dining room.

The detailing of the west wing is simple, typical of its era, with plain corner-block trim and in the lower storey a mantel with plain pilasters supporting a paneled frieze; there is no fireplace in the upper storey, from the first intermediate landing of the principal staircase, a secondary short flight of steps rises to the second floor in a passage leading to the west wing; the passage and the supplementary stair were probably taken from the main west room when the west wing was added, to provide private access.

The attic is unfinished; the straight-sawn rafters are half-lapped and pegged at the ridge. The attic of the west wing is plastered, perhaps as a servant's room, and it appears to have been accessible from a staircase within the west wing, now removed.

In the unfinished cellar, which extends under the earlier portion of the main house, the first floor log joists are visible. No joint relating to the north wing is apparent in the stone walls.

The former smoke house in the northerly half of the north wing has a stone fireplace against the back of the kitchen fireplace. A single small window from the upper storey of the kitchen wing looks into the upper portion of the smoke house.

(See Continuation Sheet #4)

Continuation Sheet #4

Question #7 continued

The buttressed stone walls of a former grainery stand west of the house; the framed superstructure has disappeared but a stone-walled shed addition to the west remains, with a pierced brick vent in the characteristic hourglass shape through its south end wall.

North of the house are the stone walls of a former barn, with a one storey framed stable built within them.

The stone springhouse, south of the dwelling, has a flat concrete slab roof. Its door is through its south wall and a louvred opening is in each other wall.

Continuation Sheet #5

Question #9 continued

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. (Philadelphia, 1877).

Sidney, J.C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland. (Baltimore, 1850).

Clapp, Elizabeth F., Charlton Merrick Gillett and Romaine McI..Randall.
Maryland Gardens and Houses. (Baltimore, 1938).