

G-II-A-105

ca. 1900

G. Victor Reuchlein House

Selbysport

Private

The house is a two-story, four bay by one bay duplex, facing north. The house has a shed addition on the rear (S elevation) and a hipped-roof porch runs the length of the facade.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

G. Victor Reuchlein House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Old Morgantown Rd. S side, approx. 2/10 mi. W of Yough. R. Lake

CITY, TOWN

Seibysport

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Garrett County

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

G. Victor Reuchlein

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Garrett County Courthouse

Liber #: 318

Folio #: 308

STREET & NUMBER

Third and Alder Streets

CITY, TOWN

Oakland

STATE

Maryland 21550

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

G-II-A-105

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The G. Victor Reuchlein House is located on the S side of Old Morgantown Road, approximately 2/10 mi. W of the Youghiogheny River Lake shore in Selbysport.

The house is a two-story, 4 bay by 1 bay duplex, facing north. The house has a shed addition on the rear (S elevation) and a hipped-roof porch runs the length of the facade.

The house rests on a stone foundation and is covered with German siding, painted white. The windows all have 2 over 2 sashes, with cornices and plain board surrounds. The roof has a cross gable on the facade (N elevation) and is covered with standing seam metal. In the gables of the two gable ends and in the cross gable, German siding is placed on the diagonal towards the center, creating a chevron pattern. The windows in these gables have pointed arches, with cornices decorated with jigsaw work. The window is divided into five parts for a tracery effect. The double doors, placed in the two central bays of the facade, are painted red. They have oval windows above four panels, with applied carved wood decorations. Both doors have rectangular, single-paned transoms.

The porch is supported by four turned posts with jigsawn quarter-round brackets and turned drop spindles. The cornice of the porch roof has jigsawn trefoil trim. The porch balustrades are jigsawn and the patterns on either side of the center are different.

The house has three flues: two brick interior end flues to the S of the roof ridge of the main block, and one brick flue in the middle of the shed addition.

The house is in fair condition and appears to be used principally as a weekend or vacation retreat.

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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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		

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SPECIFIC DATES	ca. 1900	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	unknown
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The duplex house form is a common type of worker housing in many industrial towns in America; its advantages are that it is easily and cheaply built, and is an efficient use of land. The form is common in the George's Creek section of Allegany County, but is no longer frequently found in Garrett County.

In the 1890's, Selbysport was according to the Oakland Republican, "booming."<sup>1</sup> The construction of the confluence and Oakland Railroad in 1889 boasted commerce as the area timber was being cut and shipped along the Youghiogheny to Confluence, Pennsylvania.<sup>2</sup> This new prosperity caused a small building boom in town, as several men moved to construct new homes or other buildings in Selbysport. One of these men was Jonas Frazee, who in 1891 was planning to construct a warehouse in town.<sup>3</sup> In 1897 he purchased the property on which this duplex stands.

An outstanding feature of this house is the elaborate jigsaw trim, which may have been manufactured at one of the many local sawmills.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

<sup>1</sup>"Selbysport News Hems," Rpt. from the Oakland Republican, 1-16-1891 and 5/1/1891. Glades Star, V. 1, no. 13, March 31, 1944, p. 103.

<sup>2</sup>"Selbysport, Maryland, "Glades Star, V. 1, no. 11, Sept. 30, 1943, p. 89.

<sup>3</sup>"Selbysport NEWS Items," ibid.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
-------	--------

STATE	COUNTY
-------	--------

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Ann Burns, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

March 1981

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

301-269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

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

Chain of Title

G-II-A-105 G. Victor Reuchlein House

318/308 From: Alvin and Lela A. Lytle  
12-14-71 To: G. Victor and Linda Reuchlein  
Deed Consideration: \$10

Two lots in Selbysport and buildings

104/484 From: Earl and Barbara A. Bowser  
5/3/32 To: Alvin and Lela A. Lytle  
Deed Consideration: \$800

80/58 From: Elvira and Leroy J. Holiday  
4-13-21 To: Earl and Barbara A. Bowser  
Deed Consideration: \$1,200

Two lots on the South side of Old Morgantown Road  
One lot of three acres on the North side of Old  
Morgantown Road

A lot next to the Kessler land

28/392 From: Jonas Frazee and wife  
9-23-1897 To: Sarah A. Friend  
Deed Consideration: \$300

"All and singular the buildings, improvements thereunto belonging"

Q-II-A-105

V.1 #13 3-31-44

### Selbysport News Items

(From "The Republican" of May 1, 1891)

Improvements in our town are booming.

H. M. Frazee, business manager of the Yough Store Company, will build a booming factory in the near future; also a large dwelling with all conveniences.

Geo. W. Frazee is selling beautiful building lots cheap. Mr. F. Will put up a fine house this fall.

Geo. M. Stuck is in our village whooping up his new building.

Diamond Dann has his new house about completed.

Jasper Fike will build this fall.

Robert Liston will build a new store house this spring.

Jonas Frazee is going to build a large warehouse, corner Morgantown and Frazee Avenues.

D. J. Stuck is building a large barn.

A. Knabb & Co., are putting up a large barn at their Buffalo Run plant.

We are proud of our new buildings. There has not been a cheap building put up yet.

#### V

A. Knabb & Co., of Oil City, Pa., have moved all their machinery from Friendsville to their works at Buffalo Run. Knabb & Co., have purchased three acres of land from Kimmel Frazee for their mill and stave yard. They expect to employ from thirty to forty men on their works.

—"The Republican" of Jan. 16, 1891.

Goff farm west of Red House, died March 2, 1944, at her home in Oakland. She was the daughter of Rev. John Phillips from the Eastern Shore, and Elizabeth Hoyer of Sang Run. On October 18, 1885 Minnie Phillips married Thaddeus C. Hinebaugh. They were the parents of five children.

Mrs. Hinebaugh was an artist, a public spirited citizen, devoted to her family and interested in the history of her community.

and Krug. This Company was owned by Jacob and Samuel Kendall of Meyersdale, Pa. Their brother, John C. Kendall, was superintendent of the company. They built a narrow gauge railroad to haul logs to their mill from Kendall up the River valley with branch lines to Deep Creek and Laurel Run.

A. Knabb & Company manufactured staves and whiskey barrels at Manor Land. Henry Krug was associated with the company.

Several lumber companies operated out of Friendsville. The Clark & McCullough Company began operating on Bear Creek in 1895, using horse drawn tram cars. It sold its interests to the Meadow Mountain Lumber Company, which built over twenty-five miles of narrow gauge railroad and operated a mill of 50,000 ft. soft wood and 20,000 ft. hardwood capacity per day.

Among other companies operating mills were the Lock Haven and Bear Creek Lumber Companies, and the Johnstown Planing Mill Company, all on Bear Creek. The last big shipper of timber from Friendsville was Black & Frazee; dealing chiefly in mine timbers, they shipped up to three hundred cars of posts per month.

When the original forest trees were cut and the railroad was about to die a natural death, the Federal Government secured an option to buy the property for \$306,000. The Company requested permission to abandon the line, but the McCullough Coal Corporation, then the chief shipper over the line, and the Maryland Public Service Commission objected. On March 6, 1941, the Interstate Commerce Commission granted the Company's petition. The case was taken to the courts and the order of the Commission sustained by the Supreme Court.

Shipping tariffs were cancelled and operation of the C. & O. R. R., ceased on April 1, 1942.

#### MINNIE PHILLIPS HINEBAUGH

Born February 24, 1861, on the old

Allegany Bar, taught his quarter there, when a very young man. Quite recently, I visited the spot for verification, but the remains were very dim, just sufficient for identification."

Rinehart (Sunnyside, Sussan's Church)—1820: Approximately two miles southwest of Gortner along U.S. 219 is the site of an early log church known as Sussan's, which was also used for a school. There was a separate log school built in the neighborhood later. The Rineharts were among the early settlers and the school seems to have been known as "Rinehart's", but it could have been known as "Sunnyside" for that name was applied to the area by early settlers. This pioneer school is not to be confused with the Sunnyside school which was later established at this location. An early teacher at the pioneer school was Ann Thayer, daughter of settler Stephen Thayer who had come from New England. Miss Thayer contracted, in 1823, to teach the 3-month term for \$2.00 per pupil and room with board was also to be furnished.

Shelby's Port (Selhysport)—1821: A log school house was built in 1821 on the Morgantown Road just west of the village and close to a beech grove. The record mentions that the beech grove was a convenient source for tough switches used to enforce school discipline. A bunch of switches was thought to be as necessary as goose quills in operating a school. No attempt has been made by the writer to identify this location with today's landmarks. There is no record of early teachers available to me.

Ashby—1823: This school was located on the Moorefield-King-

wood road near a small stream on the H. C. Kildow farm. Mr. Iret Ashby identifies this location with today's landmarks as being close to the Underwood road, approximately one-half mile west of the intersection with the Wes White road. The record shows Nancy Thayer having a contract to teach there in 1823. This is a strange coincidence as there was an Ann Thayer teaching at Rinehart in 1823. Is there a confusion of dates and names? There was a second Ashby school located close to the present Underwood Church. Iret Ashby's father attended there around the 1870's. No record of this school has been found.

The Sang Run Academy - 1830

The Singing Ground was settled in 1796, and their first school was at Crab Tree Bottom near McHenry. The record shows it was taught by Wm. W. Hoyer but no date is given. This could have been the oldest school established in what is now Garrett County. In the 1830's John Hoyer secured the services of James Warren, a Yankee teacher, and the community built the Sang Run Academy at the Enlow crossroads. This seems to have been a very successful school. Pupils came from as far away as Accident, and boarded with the schoolmaster. Judge D. H. Friend, a pupil of the academy wrote 80 years afterward of the pleasant memories he had of the pupils and the education that he received there. Mr. E. E. Enlow writing of his schooldays at the Elder Hill school in the 1870's states that the pupils of the previous generation who attended the Sang Run Academy had educational advantages he didn't

So it would seem that this school was outstanding for its time. No effort has been made to pinpoint this location with today's landmarks.

Grantsville—1840-1868. There are schools in Grantsville and vicinity before 1840. The list of schools receiving aid from the "our school fund" cited previously in this article, includes a school in Grantsville, but makes no mention of its location. It was about 1840 that the people of Grantsville built a log structure, on the lane leading toward Silsbury, Pa., which was used for a church, and as a school building. The exact ground site of this building is not known.

In 1868, Meshack Shultz and wife deeded to Balthasar Welch, William R. Getty, and David Welchley, trustees of the Grantsville school, one acre of land with a large brick house on it. This was known as the Shultz hotel property and was located on the turnpike road (National Road). We find that the site of the Schultz hotel was incorporated in the present town of house in 1950.

Research identifies the following persons as early teachers in Grantsville and vicinity: John Wiley, Benjamin Weston, Jacob Musselman, James Mimma, John Luckman, Michael Sherry, James Kennedy, Charles G. Slemaker (mentioned as Jacob Brown), Miss Columbia Burn, and Miss Lillie Stutzman. Grants Glade (Bear Range) — The Ryan's Glade school was located in that community in the middle 1800's. This was a typical structure of the period. Its fireplace was larger than most and would admit four-foot logs. Mention is made by some writers

that the pupils used goose quills, and ink made from pokeberries. The school was located across the road from the White Church cemetery in what was then known as Kearney community. Fire destroyed the building at an unknown date. The Ryan's Glade school was then replaced by another known as Bear Range which was located at the headwaters of Steyer Run about two miles from Steyer. This building was more modern and provided a slate blackboard, a Burnside heating stove, and factory-made seats.

Accident and Deer Park Communities — 1860. Mr. Robert B. Garrett, of Deer Park, remembers hearing his family speak of early schools in these areas. One school was held between Deer Park and Altamont in a building standing east of present Route 135 and about one-half mile west of its present intersection with the Turkey Neck road.

In Accident community, a pioneer school was kept in a building located near the intersection of the Spear and Bumblebee roads. This was south of Accident village and, possibly, within sight of present U.S. highway 219. The locations are only approximate as the accurate details are not known.

Parochial School at Oakland — 1869. Catholic education began with the building of the school structure in Oakland by Father O'Sullivan in 1869-1870.

Compton. The log building still standing along New Germany rd. between Route 40 and the present New Germany recreational center, housed Compton school. We find that the lot on which the building stands (.13 of an

G-II-A-105

THE  
**Glades**  **Star**

PUBLISHED BY  
**THE GARRETT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
NO. 11 OAKLAND, MARYLAND SEPT. 30, 1943

**SELBYSPOUR, MARYLAND**

**S**HELBY'S PORT ON THE YOUGHIOGHENY is of special interest to us because it is the oldest town in our county, founded prior to 1798. In preparing the valley for flooding by the Youghiogheny River Flood Control Authority most of its houses have been removed and the old village will cease to exist this year, tho the Methodist Church and public school, located on higher ground, will be spared.

Pre-historic remains found near the mouth of Buffalo Run and elsewhere in the Selbysport neighborhood indicate a considerable Indian population there long ago. The red men paddled and poled their canoes up the Youghiogheny, and their Bear Camp Path crossed the river near the present bridge.

A favorable location on river and trail brought this place to the attention of our earliest pioneers.

**CAPTAIN SHELBY** In 1773 Evan Shelby, noted Indian fighter of Washington County, Maryland, patented "Buffalo Run", 149 acres, including the Indian camp ground and old corn fields near the mouth of that stream. Shelby sold "Buffalo Run" to the Frazees and moved to Tennessee, but he was long remembered in Maryland; the new town was doubtless named "Shelby's Port" in his honor. And the "Port" in the name had a real significance: the pioneers hoped to use the Youghiogheny, or a canal on one of its shores, for transportation. In the early days freight was actually rafted down stream from this neighborhood.

**FROMAN AND HIS MILL** In 1771 Jacob Froman from Virginia surveyed and patented "Bad Is The Best of It", 120 acres, at the mouth of Bear Camp Run, now called Mill Run. Soon after he settled there and built a grist mill, the first mill in our

NOTES:—(1) Buffallow Run, 149 acres. Surveyed for Evan Shelby 10th of June, 1772, and patented to him 29th September, 1778. Lying in Frederick County at the mouth of Buffallow Run. —Land Office Records.

(2) BUFFALO RUN was so named because one of the early settlers killed a buffalo on the north bank near its mouth.

(3) Evan Shelby was a fighting Welshman. "On the return of the Maryland troops from the expedition against the Indians, under Braddock and Washington, Capt. Evan Shelby, who commanded a company of Frederick County Rangers, was received with every demonstration of joy". —History of Western Maryland.

By Act of the Maryland Legislature, "Captain Evan Shelby was awarded the sum of fifty pounds for the scalp of Captain Charles, brother to Custoga, a Delaware Indian, commanding a party of warriors, who was killed in a skirmish near Loyal Hanning (Western Pa.), on the 12th of November, 1758, by Captain Shelby, who commanded a company of Maryland volunteers".

county. Prior to 1798 Froman moved to Kentucky and rented his mill property to John Fike, Sr., who had settled on Fike Hill, and operated a distillery as well as the mill. John Fike bought the mill property in 1814. Later it was owned by the Hazletts and in more recent years by the Speelmans.

**THE FRAZEEES** Before the Revolution Frazeees from New Jersey settled in the neighborhood—Jeremiah and Johnathan on the Buffalo Run tract and Thurman on Frazee's Ridge. Last year Orval Frazee sold "Buffalo Run" to the Government for flood control, and the remains of the family in the graveyard were removed to Addison, Pa.

**CODDINGTONS** When Col. Francis Deakins surveyed the Military Lots in 1787, three Coddington brothers from New Jersey claimed lots as "settlers": William, who settled the Hone farm west Selbysport; Benjamin, a veteran of the Revolutionary War, resided on "Rich Hill" near the Pennsylvania line, where he reared a family of sixteen children; and Samuel, who owned the present Bruce Frantz farm on Buffalo.

After the death of his brother in 1827, Samuel Coddington acquired the William Coddington farm and left it by will to his daughter, Charlotte, who had married Dr. William Frye, Selbysport's first physician. The Frye's farmed extensively, employing negro slave labor.

**THE FRANTZ BROTHERS** were early settlers in the Selbysport neighborhood. John lived near the Pennsylvania line; Johnathan was a prosperous farmer in the Cove, and Joseph settled in the village of Selbysport. In 1805 Aza Beall deeded to Joseph Frantz a lot on the north side of the Morgantown Road, on which Frantz already had a tannery, which his son John continued to operate after his father's death.

The Hoffmans (father and son) came to Shelby's Port from **HOFFMAN'S** Cumberland about 1803, when John Pritchard deeded to **MILL** David Hoffman military lot 3294 and four lots in the town. About 1805 the Hoffmans built a grist mill on the south side of the Morgantown road, utilizing water power supplied by a dam across the river. Later they added a saw mill to the property. Black Jim was Hoffman's miller. Later H. M. Frazee owned the grist mill and operated it until 1889.

During the War of 1812 Selbysport was headquarters for a company of State Militia, commanded by Capt. Aza Beall. Meshack Browning and Robinson Savage were sergeants of this company. It was at Hoffman's Mill that Browning had his desperate fight with Shannon in 1814, when the company mutinied under Browning's command.

**FOUNDING** West Selbysport was built on Military Lot 3294 and the east side on Lot 3296. These lots and Lot 3295 were patented in 1796 by the State to David Robertson, who claimed them as a settler in 1787. Robertson sold the property to a Frenchman,

**A TOWN** Peter Devecon of Westernport, a merchant and land speculator, who, prior to 1798, had streets and a hundred building lots surveyed on both sides of the Morgantown road at "the Crossing". Peter Devecon may be regarded as the founder of the town. In 1798 John and Thomas Pritchard, William Post and Daniel Arnett were assessed with lots in Shelby's Port. A book, "The State of Maryland", published in 1807, says: "Shelby's Port, a small town 38 miles west of Cumberland, is situated on the waters of "Big Crossing Creek."

In 1798 Peter Devecon sold his property at Shelby's Port for £300 to Aza Beall of Cumberland. Aza Beall lived west of the town. He owned negro

**NOTE:**—In his "Life of A Hunter" Meshack Browning gives some interesting local history of the draft during the War of 1812.

slaves and raised tobacco. He also operated a store in the town.

In 1817 Aza Beall became Clerk of the Circuit Court and moved to Cumberland. Daniel Smouse later purchased the Beall farm and in 1834 re-surveyed "Joseph In Egypt", 424 acres, including the river bottom fields. In 1838 Daniel Smouse sold "Joseph In Egypt" to George Mathews.

### THE MATHEWS HOUSE

One of the few remaining houses of the pioneer settlers is the "Mathews House" above the road just west of Selbysport. It still stands in majestic ruin. Built of logs in three sections, evidently by different owners, of perhaps three generations, massive stone chimneys at each end, its history is shrouded in mystery. The first section, a small primitive structure, may have been built by David Robertson, who claimed to be the first settler. The latest and largest section, of two stories, was probably built by Aza Beall



THE MATHEWS HOMESTEAD

more than a hundred years ago. George Mathews repaired the house and lived in it until he built the frame house nearby. His daughter, Mrs. Jane Frazee, owned the property until her death, but the old log house was abandoned as a residence some thirty years ago.

Until the roof of the house fell in the great oak logs were sound. It may yet be possible to save them for the construction of a memorial building to the early pioneers. The old Friend Fort at Friendsville might be rebuilt with the logs and chimney stones of the Mathews House.

**ROADS** The Morgantown Road followed the Indian path from the Bear Camp on Braddock's Road thru Selby's Port to Morgan Town. **BRIDGES** Until the construction of the National Road in 1816 it served as a main highway into North Western Virginia, as well as an outlet for the Selby's Port settlement.

In 1801 the trail from Selby's Port thru Blooming Rose to the Sandy Creek Glades in Virginia was opened as a public road.

In 1807 the County Levy Court ordered the opening of a road from the Selby's Port bridge to Hays' on the State Road above Swanton. John Stuck and Jacob Welch were appointed commissioners to lay off the road and Wm. W. Hoyer was the surveyor. This road served as the outlet to the markets of Western Port and Cumberland. There was a wooden bridge across the river at Selby's Port as early as 1807.

(Continued on Page 89)

## Garrett County Historical Society

### OFFICERS

Capt. Charles E. Hoye....President  
Mr. John W. Holman...1st Vice-Pres.  
Miss Viola Broadwater.2nd Vice-Pres.  
Miss Orley V. Dunham....Secretary  
Dr. Joseph E. Harned.....Treasurer

### THE GLADES STAR

Published Quarterly at Oakland, Md.  
Entered as second-class matter March  
12, 1942, at the Postoffice at Oak-  
land, Maryland, under the Act of Au-  
gust 24, 1912.

Printed by The Republican Press.  
For sale at Hamill's Book Store or at  
the Secretary's office, 5 cents per copy.

ALL PERSONS interested in Gar-  
rett County are invited to join the  
GCHS. Regular membership fee is  
\$1.00. There are no dues.

### NEW MEMBERS

Clyde J. Miller, Trivali, Ill.  
Mrs. John Delawder, Washington,  
D. C.  
Mrs. Jno. Morgan, Frostburg, Md.  
Mrs. Frank Lowdermilk, Selbysport,  
Maryland.  
George Coddington, Oakland.  
E. M. Tabb, Bristow, Va.

### DECEASED MEMBERS

"The Glades Star" publishes notices  
of deaths of members of the society.  
Relatives and friends are requested to  
notify the Secretary and to send his-  
torical sketches of deceased members,  
which may be used for publication  
and will be placed in our files. The  
"Star" is mailed to the family of the  
deceased; members of such families  
are especially invited to join the  
society and help carry on the work.

## Annual Meeting

"The regular annual meeting of the  
society shall be held at Oakland on  
the first Thursday of December."—  
Sec. 1, By-Laws of the GCHS.

The First Vice-President, Mr. John  
W. Holman, will announce later the  
meeting hour, place and program,  
which will include the election of of-  
ficers. Mr. Holman will preside at the  
meeting, the president being employed  
at a defense plant in Baltimore.

## Our Soldiers and Sailors

To September 15, 1943, Garrett  
county furnished 1,305 men for our  
armed services—1,016 inducted thru  
selective service, and 289 volunteers.

Staff Sergeant John F. Frazee, of  
Selbysport, and Master Sergeant John  
C. Lewis, of Frostburg, have been  
awarded decorations for "meritori-  
ous achievement" while participating  
in aerial flights in the Southwest Pa-  
cific.

Second Lieutenant Carroll W. Cas-  
teel, formerly of Oakland, has been  
"missing" since August 9, 1942, when  
his plane was shot down over New  
Guinea.

Technical Sergeant Raymond M.  
Speicher, of Friendsville, is a prisoner  
of war in Germany.

Flight Officer Robert A. Nicholson,  
of Sunnyside, was killed in action over  
Sicily on July 8th.

### MISS MAY HOWARD

Born March 17, 1873; died at the  
Howard summer home in Oakland,  
August 23, 1943. She was a daughter  
of McHenry Howard, of Baltimore and  
Oakland, and a great-granddaughter  
of Francis Scott Key.

Miss Howard was one of the found-  
ers of the GCHS and active in its  
work.

## SELBYSPOORT, MARYLAND

(Continued from Page 87)

In 1868 Richard White, Christian Fike and Jeremiah Guard were ap-  
pointed superintendents for the construction of a new wooden bridge to cost  
\$3000. It was completed the following year. This old covered bridge was re-  
placed by the present bridge in 1888.

The C. & O. railroad was built in 1889 and the old town of Selbysport  
revived for a time while the timber of the neighborhood was cut and shipped.  
During recent years Selbysport has declined while its younger sister, Friends-  
ville, has grown in importance.

The first church of the Sandy Creek Settlement was the  
CHURCHES Baptist "Meeting House" near the Virginia—Maryland  
boundary. It was built prior to 1774. The Baptist Church on  
Frazee's Ridge is probably a granddaughter of the Sandy Creek Meeting  
House.

The Methodists organized at an early date in Selbysport. Services were  
held in the log school house, which was later remodeled into a church. The  
present church was built in 1882, during the pastorate of Rev. A. M. Bolin,  
on the site of the old log church.

The first school in Selbysport was taught in a log house just  
SCHOOLS west of town on the north side of the Morgantown road, near a  
beech grove "where switches were plentiful". The present  
school—a well kept, two-roomed structure—is near the old Hoffman grave-  
yard on high ground: it will not be reached by the coming flood.

Here ends our brief account of Selbysport, our first town, now being  
destroyed, abandoned, and soon to be flooded by the waters of the Youghio-  
gheny. We trust ways will be found to control the floods and at the same  
time preserve the beauty of the valley. Possibly new and better homes will  
be built upon the shores of the lake which will cover the old settlement.

But Shelby's Port will not be forgotten!

NOTES:—(1) In 1799 Allegany County was divided into six election districts. Selby's  
Port was the polling place for District No. 2, which then included almost half of what is  
now Garrett County.

(2) THE SELBYSPOORT POST OFFICE was opened Dec. 10, 1833, with Moses A. Rose  
as postmaster. The other earlier postmasters were: David Hoffman (1834), Aza C. Frey  
(1848); Ralph Thayer (1849); John P. Lowdermilk (1855); John V. Smith (1855); Charles  
H. Thayer (1858); Lucretia A. Thayer (1860); Thomas Coddington (1864); Hiram M.  
Frazee (1867); John C. Dunham (1872).

(3) THE CENSUS OF 1800 lists as heads of families in the Selby's Port neighborhood the  
following: John Simkins, Ben Coddington, Stephen Pierson, John Baker, Abraham Shocky,  
Peter Stuck, John Stuck, John Fike, Jacob Welch, Anna French, John Waybill, Aaron  
Branderberry, Philip Duttiro, Sam'l Coddington, Wm. Pierson, Clement Swift, James Fergu-  
son, Mich'l Fresl, David Goffin, Thomas Baker, Mary Sickle, Joseph Moore, Daniel Moore,  
Jacob Mills, John Jonas, Enoch Hand, Johnathan Frazee, Jer. Frazee, Mary Frazee, John  
Fallow, Thurman Frazee, John Liston, Wm. Coddington, Roseanne Jones, John Coddington,  
Robinson Savage, John Rutan, Silvester Ryland, Henry Teats, Jacob Markley, Ben Ayers,  
Catherine Umble, John Spurgeon, Nelly Knott, Margaret James, Peter Rutan, David Stotts,  
Jesse Stotts, Mich'l Collier, John Clark, John Pritchard, Thos. Liston, Ben Middleton, Dan'l  
Arnett.

(4) "The Glades Star" of December 31, 1941, contains an interesting store bill of Aza  
Beall, merchant, against James Drane for the years 1816-1817. Later store keepers in  
Selbysport were Ralph Thayer, Hiram Frazee and Walter Lowdermilk.

(5) We are indebted to Miss Nezzie Friend and Mr. Norval Speelman for data on  
Selbysport history.

**DANIEL EDWARD OFFUTT**

Born September 22, 1872; died August 20, 1943. He was a son of Daniel Edwin Offutt, of Oldtown, Md., who established important mercantile and lumber businesses in our county before the Civil War.

Mr. Offutt succeeded his father in the management of the Oakland store. At the time of his death he was president of the Garrett National Bank and chairman of the County Selective Service Board.

**WINFIELD SCOTT FRIEND**

Co. "D," Third Maryland Regiment. Served from May 10, 1862, until June 5, 1865. A highly respected citizen of Selbysport. Born August 25, 1943, and at the time of his death one of the last of our surviving Civil War veterans.

**SWALLOW FALLS CCC CAMP**, last of our seven camps, closed May 20, 1942, after eight years of service.

**FOREST FIRES** burned over 1,400 acres of forest land in one week of April, 1942.

## Letter From Senator Radcliffe

United States Senate

August 28, 1943.

Dear Captain Hoye:—

Again I want to congratulate you on the issue of The Glades Star.

It is, I think, a remarkably successful publication, especially when you consider the fact that it is issued not by a state society but by a county society.

I am looking forward to coming up to Garrett County at a time when the Garrett County situation will permit.

I am very eager to attend some of your meetings and, as President of the Maryland Historical Society, will try to work out with you closer plans of cooperation between the Maryland Historical Society and The Garrett County Historical Society.

By the way, last year we had very interesting programs at the Maryland Historical Society and over six hundred new members have joined the Society since January 1st.

We will probably inaugurate this year the program of devoting special evenings to special counties. The program could be arranged very carefully in regard to the history, etc., of some particular county and for a period prior to and subsequent to that meeting, portraits, books and relics of various kinds could be on exhibit at the Maryland Historical Society for a period of a week or so. Of course, this program could be varied to meet conditions.

I should like very much indeed to talk to you about the matter some time at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE L. RADCLIFFE.

**PROPERTY TAX RATES:** For 1942—County, \$1.33; State, \$.14. For 1943—County, \$2.33; State, \$.1275.

**PETER DEVECMON**

Contributed by F. A. Walker, of Washington, D. C., a grandson of Hannah McCarty. The McCarty's founded the town of Oakland in 1849. William Armstrong and wife, Hannah Sinnex, were the first permanent settlers of Oakland, in 1806.

Peter Devecmon (1759-1803) was a young French nobleman who left France because of having killed, in a duel about a girl of little importance to either duelist, a young cousin whom he termed his "dearest friend" and for whom he grieved as long as he lived.

In France, his name was Pierre Duvaucel d'Evequemont, the last being his title, "of Bishop's Hill." In America he anglicized his personal name, dropped the family name and respelled the title to express in English the sound of the French words.

His immediate family consisted only of his sister, Marie, a lady of the Queen's court who, until the French Revolution, forwarded to him the revenues from his estates. She was doubtless killed in some of the violence of that time, for she was not tried before the Tribunal Revolutionnaire, which condemned the queen and so many others, among them one Louis-Philippe, described as a noble and collector of certain taxes under contract, who may likely have been an uncle or a cousin of Pierre.

When Napoleon undertook to restore their estates to nobles who should come to claim them, Devecmon planned to go and to take with him his eldest daughter Marie (aged 12 or 13) to be acknowledged as heir to his properties, but wanted her first to learn some French. She, possibly influenced by her mother, who might have feared that they would not return, was not eager for the long trip to a strange world, especially after a French couple, friends of her father,

embarked for such a journey on a ship which was lost at sea. So she learned very slowly indeed, and his death in 1803 ended the project.

A relative who much later made an investigation in France reported that Pierre and his sister were own cousins to the king and to the young man killed in the duel.

In America, Devecmon came first to Jamaica, perhaps about 1783 or 1784, then to Baltimore and to Wilmington, Delaware, where he boarded at the home of a substantial Swedish citizen of that town and in 1786 married his landlady's sixteen-year-old sister, Hannah Sinnex, of an old Swedish colonial family already settled there for more than a hundred years. At that time he gave his name as Peter D'Evecmon, later as Devecmon.

In the next years he was in Cumberland, where he prospered for several years, his own intelligence, energy and education being backed up by his French income.

The History of Cumberland mentions him as having built there a stone flour mill, the largest and best mill west of tidewater. He had the first brick house in Cumberland and the first carriage. He built other mills, one of them being at Oldtown and another at Westernport where his daughter Ann (later Mrs. Isaac McCarty) was born in 1794. Land was very plentiful and he bought and sold many parcels and sold long leases on some. His son George was born in 1784 at a place called Buck's Lodge in Allegany county.

In Clarksburg he had a store which William Armstrong operated for him but for which he himself bought the goods in large lots in Baltimore or Philadelphia and had them wagoned over the mountains, the only means of transportation at that time. He also continued his land business and was

"We live in the present, we dream of the future, but we learn eternal truths from the past."

—Madame Chiang Kai-Shek.

engaged in it at his death, having ridden out with some men to show land, and being brought back in a dying condition from a head injury due (they said) to a fall from his horse. He was conscious for a time but unable to speak. His wife knew no details of his affairs and the family belief was that most of his property fell into the hands of his Cumberland lawyer. But perhaps the cessation of remittances may have cramped his finances during his last several years.

However, in 1806 William Armstrong married the widow and brought her to the Glades, where they spent forty-two years together, and in her latter years she said that she respected her first husband, but loved her second, so things turned out happily after all.

Her Devecmon children, of whom the first five appear to have named for members of her parents' large family in Wilmington, are:

- Thomas (1787- ) died in youth.  
 Maria (1789-1871) m. 1806 Dr. David Davison, Clarksburg.  
 Ingaba (1791-1815) m. 1812 Thomas Tate, Clarksburg and La.  
 Ann (1794-1885) m. 1815 Isaac McCarty, of Black Oak, Md., later of Oakland; later Iowa.  
 Ellen (1796-1890) not married; lived with Ann in Iowa. •  
 George (1798-1879) m. 1828? Sophia Lantz, of Oldtown, Md. Was legislator; clerk to County Commissioners 11 years; later at Fairfield, Iowa.  
 Eliza (1804? ) m. James Ebert or Ebbert, of Pennsylvania; later Iowa.

Hannah Sinnex was married in 1786 in the famous old "Old Swedes' Church," already at that time about ninety years old, in which her parents had been married in 1754 and her grandparents in 1726. Her family came to the Swedish colony either with the first group of settlers in 1638 or shortly thereafter; one was of the committee which built the church in 1698, and he has reposed beneath the floor of his pew for more than 230 years; one was a member of the first U. S. Congress. The family name is spelled in more than 20 different ways.

## TO A PIONEER MOTHER

(Dedicated to Mrs. Meshac Browning)

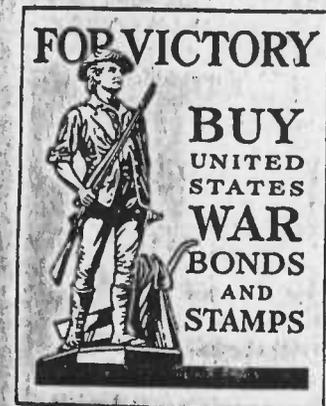
She baked and brewed, yet never complained  
 When she garnered the wheat and corn,  
 While the father wandered away in the glades  
 At the break of every morn.

For he must be hunting a grizzly bear  
 Or a deer, they'll have for meat,  
 Since ten small children had to be fed,  
 And hides meant shoes for their feet.

O Pioneer Mother, so loving and kind,  
 Your shawl and bonnet are worn by none,  
 But over the mantle your picture still hangs  
 To greet your grandchildren when day is done.

—Catherine Nethken.

V



V

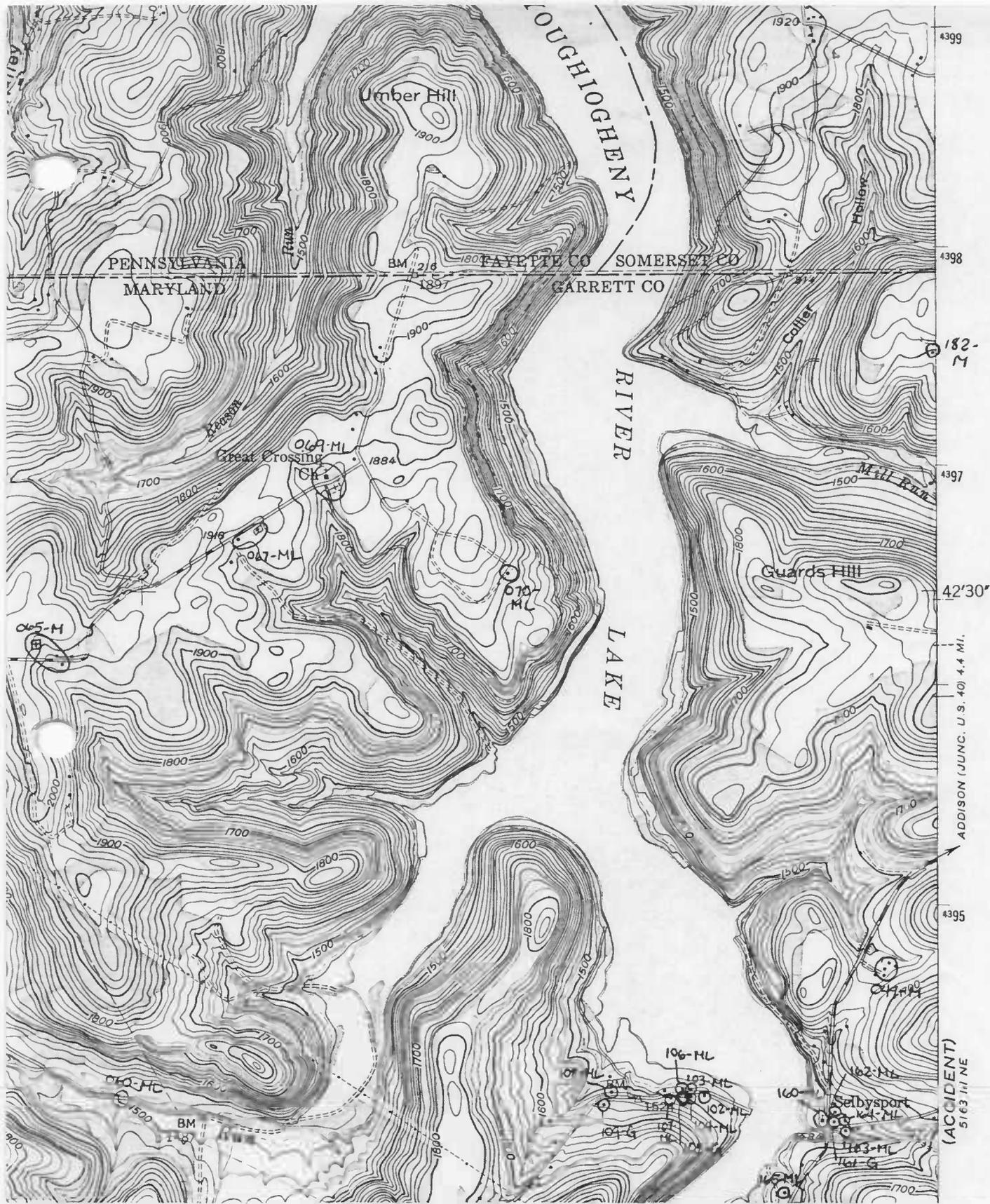
Beall High School,  
 Frostburg, Md.

Dear Mr. Hoye:

I wish to acknowledge receiving THE GLADES STAR. I enjoyed reading it and I believe that the type of work you are doing will hold the interest of your members. I appreciate the recognition given me for my contribution to the October issue. I sincerely wish for the continued success of the GCHS.

Yours truly,  
 GERTRUDE A. C. WILLIAMS.

G.I.A-105



Friendsville, MD.-PA.-WV.  
 USGS 7.5 minute series  
 Scale - 1:24000  
 1947; photorevised 1974

Site #: G-II-A-105  
 G. Victor Reuchlein House  
 South side, Old Morgantown Rd.,  
 approx. 2/10 mi. west of  
 Youghiogheny River Lake shore,  
 Selbysport



G-II-A-105

G. Victor Reuchlein House

Garrett Co., MD

Merry Stinson 9/9/80

E elev; Facade - N elev.



G-II-A-105

G. Victor Reuchlein House

Garrett Co., MD

Merry Stinson 9/9/80

Facade - N elev.



G-II-A-105

G. Victor Reuchlein House

Garrett Co., MD

Merry Stinson 9/9/80

W elevation



G-II-A-105

G. Victor Reuchlein House

Garrett Co., MD

Merry Stinson 9/9/80

W & S elevations



G-II-A-105

G. Victor Reuchlein House

Garrett Co., MD

Valerie Cesna 9/9/80

Porch balustrade & decoration



G-II-A-105

G. Victor Reuchlein House

Garrett Co., MD

Valerie Cesna 9/9/80

Facade cross-gable window



G-II-A-105

G. Victor Reuchlein House

Garrett Co., MD

Valerie Cesna 9/9/80

Facade door