



William Donald Schaefer
Governor

Jacqueline H. Rogers
Secretary, DHCD

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

#A - 978

Property/District Name: Bussey's Contrivance Survey Number: HA 1742
Rte 1, Bell Air Vicinity

Project: BIG RE Perryman to Sharon Gate and James Run Agency: Army Corps
Pipelining Corridors

Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name _____ Date _____

Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Bussey's Contrivance, a three-bay, two stone ~~stone~~ house constructed in 1819 is significant under Criteria Band C. It is significant as an early, dated stone dwelling in Harford County. The presence of a date-stone with the year of construction, the owner's initials and a cross inscription adds to the importance of the house by firmly establishing its age and ownership.

The cross is indicative of the strong religious motivations of the house's first owner, Edward F. Bussey. The Busseys were instrumental in establishing the St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Hickory. The establishment of a Catholic Church in Harford County was significant because early colonial Maryland legislation had forbidden Catholics to construct churches. This ban remained in effect through the late 18thc. St. Ignatius bears the distinction of being the oldest Roman Catholic Church in continuous use in the Diocese of Baltimore.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Form HA-1742

Prepared by: Christopher Gordon + Associates, Inc.

Elizabeth Hannold 9/19/91
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: yes no not applicable
L. Andrews 9.19.91
Reviewer, NR program Date

2814

HA-978

Although altered, through the addition of several single story frame projections and window replacements of various dates, the house retains sufficient integrity to meet the criteria for N.R. listing.

In addition to the 19thc stone dwelling, there are four 20thc farm structures on the property.

1309745304
AA 978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Spicer Bussey tenant house

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: South side of Rte 1 - Lane enters about 0.3 mi west

CITY OR TOWN: Bel Air - Harford of Peall's Mill Road

STATE: Maryland CDDE: COUNTY: Harford CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Rental housing</u>
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: ~~Spicer Bussey~~ Terra Firma Ltd.

STREET AND NUMBER: 1301 (Heaven Plaza) York Road

CITY OR TOWN: Lutherville STATE: md CODE: 21093

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

STREET AND NUMBER: HARFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE 40 S. MAIN ST.

CITY OR TOWN: BEL AIR STATE: MARYLAND CODE:

ACREAGE

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This stone masonry house is of stone that is bright brown and black. 3 bays by 2, oblong, it faces north, the slate roof/ridgeline running east-west. Very plain, eaves are narrow, cornice and woodwork simple, windows 2 lights over 2. An L-shaped porch, north and east, is partly enclosed.

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/>	16th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	18th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	20th Century <input type="checkbox"/>
15th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	17th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	19th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

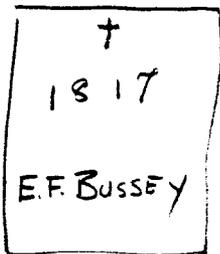
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		_____
Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

A datestone is sketched below.

Private property



or E.F. Bussen ?

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Masterton's Map of Harford County 1878 locates
~~at this spot.~~
 John Alexander

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

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

STATE:	CDDE	COUNTY	CDDE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: ANNAPOLIS HISTORICAL TRUST DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER: _____

CITY OR TOWN: ANNAPOLIS STATE: MARYLAND CODE: _____

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. HA-1742
Magi No. HA-978
DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Bussey's Contrivance

and/or common Bussey's Stone Dwelling

2. Location

street & number Conowingo Road N/A not for publication

city, town Bel Air vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Harford

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name James B. Rutledge Jr. et al

street & number 1607 Whiteford Road telephone no.:

city, town Darlington state and zip code Maryland 21034

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse liber 1109

street & number 40 South Main Street folio 135

city, town Bel Air state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust Historic Properties Inventory

date undated federal state county local

pository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. HA-~~1742~~³⁷⁸

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input 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 of move
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			N/A

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

See attached continuation sheet 7.1.

8. Significance

Survey No. ~~HA-1742~~ HA-978

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 checked="" 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 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 1819 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

See attached continuation sheet 8.1.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. HA-1742

HA-978

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 206.30 acres

Quadrangle name Bel Air

Quadrangle scale 7.5 min.

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C

Zone	Easting			Northing					

D

Zone	Easting			Northing					

E

Zone	Easting			Northing					

F

Zone	Easting			Northing					

G

Zone	Easting			Northing					

H

Zone	Easting			Northing					

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries N/A

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kathryn M. Kuranda

organization Goodwin & Associates, Inc. date July 24, 1991

street & number 337 East Third Street telephone (301) 694-0428

city or town Frederick 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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438~~

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

Bussey Contrivance
~~HA-1742~~ HA-978

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN
HISTORIC CONTEXT: BUSSEY STONE DWELLING (HA-1742)

Geographic Organization:	Piedmont
Chronological/ Development Periods:	Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815 - 1870
Historic Themes: Resource Type:	Architecture Category: Buildings Historic Environment: Rural Historic Function: Residence Known Design Source: I-House Form

Resource Count: 5

SUMMARY

Bussey's Contrivance is a five building former agricultural complex encompassing an early nineteenth century stone dwelling, three twentieth century frame outbuildings, a twentieth century cinder block spring house, and the remains of a twentieth century barn and silo. The complex has been modified substantially. The complex is currently in residential use.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Bussey's Contrivance is located on Conowingo Road (Route #1) in the vicinity of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. The complex is accessible from Conowingo Road by way of an unpaved drive. The site is surrounded to the north and west by cultivated fields. Dense woods and undergrowth form the southern and eastern boundaries of the site.

The Bussey Dwelling is a symmetrical, two-story, three-bay masonry dwelling constructed in 1819 by Edward F. Bussey. The single pile building is supported by a random rubble foundation and terminates in a gable roof clad in corrugated metal. Portions of a molded box cornice mark the lateral building eaves. The majority of this early cornice has been replaced by a simple board trim. The gable ends of the building are marked by simple raking boards. Interior-end chimneys rise from the east and west gable end elevations of the dwelling. These chimneys have been rebuilt to include brick stacks. A date stone is centrally located at the base of the west elevation chimney stack. This stone appears to be sandstone; the incised inscription includes the date "1819 and the name "E.F.B..." The surname of this inscription is illegible. Two narrow one-light-over-one-light fixed sash windows are located on the attic story of the gable end elevations. These units are enframed by simple board surrounds. The first and second story levels of the gable end elevations are blind.

The body of the building is constructed in random rubble stone. The corners are delineated by cut stone quoins. The exterior wall planes are continuous with those of the foundation. The building's symmetrical fenestration pattern is established by the structural bay divisions found on the north and south elevations. First story window openings are slightly larger than those found on the second story level. The majority of the building's windows have been replaced with two-light-over-two-light units enframed by simple board surrounds housed between wooden sills and lintels. The window surrounds also are replacement elements. An earlier six-light-over-six-light window survives on the first story of the north elevation. Aluminum storm sash have been fixed to all visible windows. One-by-one slider units are found on the second story of the principal (north) elevation; one-over-one units are found on the secondary south elevation.

One-story frame additions are located on the north, south, and east elevations of the building. The north elevation addition occupies two bays of the facade in the location of an earlier hipped roof porch. A roof ghost of this earlier element survives.

The north elevation addition is a two-by-one bay extension of contemporary design. The addition is supported by a cinder block foundation and rises to a shed roof with extended eaves. The north wall of the addition is canted. Exterior addition planes are clad in vinyl siding; the roof is sheathed in composition shingles. The original entry to the building has been replaced by a contemporary wood door that now provides access between the north addition and the masonry principal block.

The south elevation addition is a central one bay structure supported by a cinder block foundation and terminating in a shed roof. An earlier six-light-over-six-light window appears to have been reused in the south elevation of the addition. The exterior wall planes of the south addition are clad in asbestos; the roof is sheathed in standing seam metal panels.

The east elevation addition is a one by two bay extension supported by a cinder block foundation. The addition spans the full depth of the elevation.

The interior of the dwelling was not available for inspection at the request of the owner. The exterior design suggests a hall and parlor plan. The integrity of the building's interior was not accessed.

Four twentieth century outbuildings are located on the complex. A single story frame outbuilding, circa 1940, with a square ground plan is located to the southeast of the dwelling. This single cell structure is supported by cinder block piers and terminates in a shed roof. A second single story storage structure, circa 1940, is located southeast of the dwelling. This building is rectangular in ground plan and rises to a gable roof clad in slate shingles. The building has been modified through the addition of aluminum frame, slider windows.

A four bay equipment shed, circa 1940, completes the collection of frame outbuilding on the site. This structure is rectangular in ground plan and terminates in a shed roof. Three bays on the north elevation of the building are open to allow for vehicular access. A single story cinder block spring house, circa 1950, is located to the east of the main building complex. This structure terminates in a gable roof.

The foundation of a substantial barn is located in the southwest corner of the former farm lot. Debris from this building indicates a twentieth century structure, circa 1940, and includes poured concrete and slate shingles. The shaft of a glazed block silo marks the site of the southeast elevation of the barn.

SUMMARY

Bussey's Contrivance is an example of an architectural form common to the Mid-Atlantic Region. The form is of English folk derivation, and is characterized by its simple, rectangular ground plan, two story scale, symmetrical facade, and entry perpendicular to the roof ridge. The structure's original windows have been removed as has the original entry and a principal elevation porch. Despite the construction of several additions, the structure retains its original massing. It is representative of a nineteenth century agricultural complex of the Piedmont Region of Maryland; it possesses the quality of significance as defined by National Register Criterion C.

Historical research indicates that the complex was associated with significant historical events or personages. Edward F. Bussey, who is credited with the construction of the dwelling, was descendent from a locally significant family noted for their support of St. Ignatius Roman Catholic Church. Bussey was a local landowner from ca. 1810 to ca. 1840, historical research indicates that Edward Bussey played a role in significant events associated with local history. Archival research and land tenure records do not suggest associations with significant events or individuals subsequent to Edward Bussey's ownership of the property. The Bussey Stone Dwelling also possesses the quality of significance as defined by National Register Criterion B, for its association with Edward Bussey.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The Bussey Stone Dwelling is situated on the road from "The Hickory" to Gibson. Historically, this road extended from the crossroads village of Bel Air, and originally was part of the Spesutia Hundred. Cluster communities developed at both Hickory and Gibson, both conveniently close to the Bussey Stone Dwelling.

The Bussey family first was noted in the earliest records of Harford County. According to local genealogical documents (Archives, Harford County Historical Society), three Bussey brothers migrated to America from England during the seventeenth century. At least one Bussey had migrated to Harford County by 1744: Edward Bussey was listed as a tenant on two plats of Lord Baltimore's Gunpowder Manor in 1767. Under the Maryland Resurvey of 1785, land surveyed for Edward Bussey became known as "Bussey's Snipe" or "Bussey's Purchase."

The Bussey family was prominent in the early military and political history of the Bel Air area. Edward Bussey served in the Revolutionary War as a private in Captain John Love's Company, No. 10 (Preston 1901:115). His brother Bennet also served in the Revolutionary War as a captain in the 8th battalion of Colonel Hale's Battalion of Militia of the Flying Camp. Bennet's son, Henry Green Bussey, served in the War of 1812 as a captain. In 1789, Edward and Bennet Bussey both were listed on the voter rolls of Harford County; because property ownership was a fundamental requirement of voting, this fact suggests that Edward and Bennet Bussey had achieved some status and wealth by that time.

The Busseys also were a part of an early group of Catholics who settled in the "Deer Creek" area (Preston 1901:160). With other Catholic families, the Busseys were instrumental in establishing the St. Ignatius Roman Catholic Church in Hickory. The establishment of a Catholic church in Harford County was significant because early colonial Maryland legislation had forbidden Catholics to construct churches. This ban remained in effect until the Declaration of Rights and the Constitution of Maryland, adopted in the late eighteenth century, allows religious freedom. St. Ignatius bears the distinction of being the oldest Roman Catholic Church in continuous use in the Diocese of Baltimore. Edward F. Bussey, the son of Bennet, was a petitioner for the church in 1819; he and his brother, Henry Green Bussey, also were original pewholders in 1819. The Bussey family affiliation with St. Ignatius Church has been documented through the mid-1800s.

By 1783, Bennet Bussey, the Revolutionary War captain, had acquired property in Baltimore and Harford Counties, in three separate hundreds: Gunpowder Upper Hundred, Bush River Hundred, and Eden Hundred (Assessment of 1783:1,5). He received title to the 180 1/4-acre tract known as "Bussey's Tranquility" in August, 1790 (Harford County Patents I.C. #L:175). The 1790 census shows that Bennet Bussey owned five slaves (United States Census, 1790). At his death in 1804, Bussey conveyed 400 acres "near the Hickory in Harford County" to his second son, Henry Green (Harford County Will W.G.10:81). The property transactions indicate that Bussey owned land in the Hickory area prior to 1804 (Harford County Wills H.D.R.:608).

Edward Bussey is credited with the construction of the extant Bussey House; a date stone on the dwelling contains the eroded inscription "E.F. B..." and "1819." Edward F. Bussey was born in 1784 in Harford County and married Gaily Ann Wheeler in 1811. He also can be placed in the vicinity of the Hickory community during this period by virtue of his recorded active involvement in St. Ignatius Church as a founding parishioner and pewholder.

Edward Bussey also is referenced in several deeds during the period. He purchased a 97-acre portion of Bennet Wheeler's property, known as "Wheeler's and Clarks Contrivance," in 1811; (Deeds H.D.W.:114); this property originally was described as "a tract beginning near the head of the drafts of the Bush River and drafts of the head of Thomas Run (Maryland Hall of Records Patent Index). In 1813, he acquired 76 additional acres of the same tract from Parker Hall Lee (Deeds H.D.X.:395). Edward Bussey constructed his residence on this 173-acre tract ca. 1819; the property became known as "Bussey's Contrivance" in 1834.

Edward Bussey died in 1839; his brother, Henry Green Bussey, mortgaged the property in 1845 (Deeds H.D.G. 31:231); she subsequently sold 76 acres (Deeds H.D.G. 31:231). However, Gaily Ann Bussey died in 1851 and, apparently, did not fulfill the terms of the 1845 purchase. The decision in an 1854 equity case involving her oldest son, Benedict, directed that the property of Edward F. Bussey be publicly auctioned in "Belle Air". At the time of the auction, the parcel consisted of 100 acres and was sold to Samuel and Henry Ady. In 1858, Samuel Dy et al. conveyed a 25-acre portion of the former tract to Benedict Bussey (Deeds W.G. 10:120). The property was designated on both the 1858 Jennings and the Herrick and the 1878 Martenet maps of Harford County under the name of "Bussey".

In 1902, Benedict Bussey died instate; his estate comprised the mortgaged farmstead of 25 acres. James Carcaud bought the property at a foreclosure sale (Equity Case 5858 P:74); Carcaud sold the property in 1913 to M. Roberta Noonan, who resold it in 1915. Thus, by the turn of the century, the tract had become disassociated with the Bussey family. Today, the Bussey farmstead is owned by James B. Rutledge et al. and occupied by tenants.

Bussey's Contrivance is characterized by its simple, rectangular ground plan, two story scale, symmetrical facade, and entry perpendicular to the roof ridge. The exterior of the Bussey Stone Dwelling is a substantially altered representative of early nineteenth century Harford County vernacular architecture. The overall scale, and proportion of the building survive, however, the building's original massing and ornamentation have been removed or altered through addition. The structure's original windows have been removed as has the original entry and a principal elevation porch. Although many of the later additions are reversible, the architectural integrity of the building is questionable. The building shell survives intact, however evidence supporting the design of original character defining features, such as the entrance and window treatment, does not survive.

The interior of the dwelling was not available for inspection. The exterior design suggests a hall and parlor plan; no assessment of integrity was possible under the current investigations.

Bussey Contrivance

~~HA-1742~~ HA-978

8.3

An overview of the Maryland Historic Trust Inventory Forms for Harford County suggests that random rubble was a common construction method for dwelling ranging from one-and-one-half stories to two-and-one-half stories from the mid-eighteenth century through the mid-nineteenth century. At least one other example, Abott's Forest (HA 987), a three bay, two-story dwelling with interior-end chimneys and blind gable-end elevations is documented in survey materials for Harford County. The dwelling, also known as the Robert Smith Stone House, includes six-light-over-six-light windows and intact entrance incorporating a recessed door with sidelights and transom.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel.
1979 *A History of Baltimore County*. Friends of Towson Library Inc., York, Maryland.
- Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.
File Drawers: Assessment of 1783, Patent Index.

Microfilm: U.S. Censuses, Land Deeds, Will Books.
- Harford County Courthouse.
Land deeds, wills and equity cases.
- Harford County Historical Society.
Harford County Archives: Vertical Files on Bussey Family, Gunpowder Manor.

Harford County Genealogy Room.

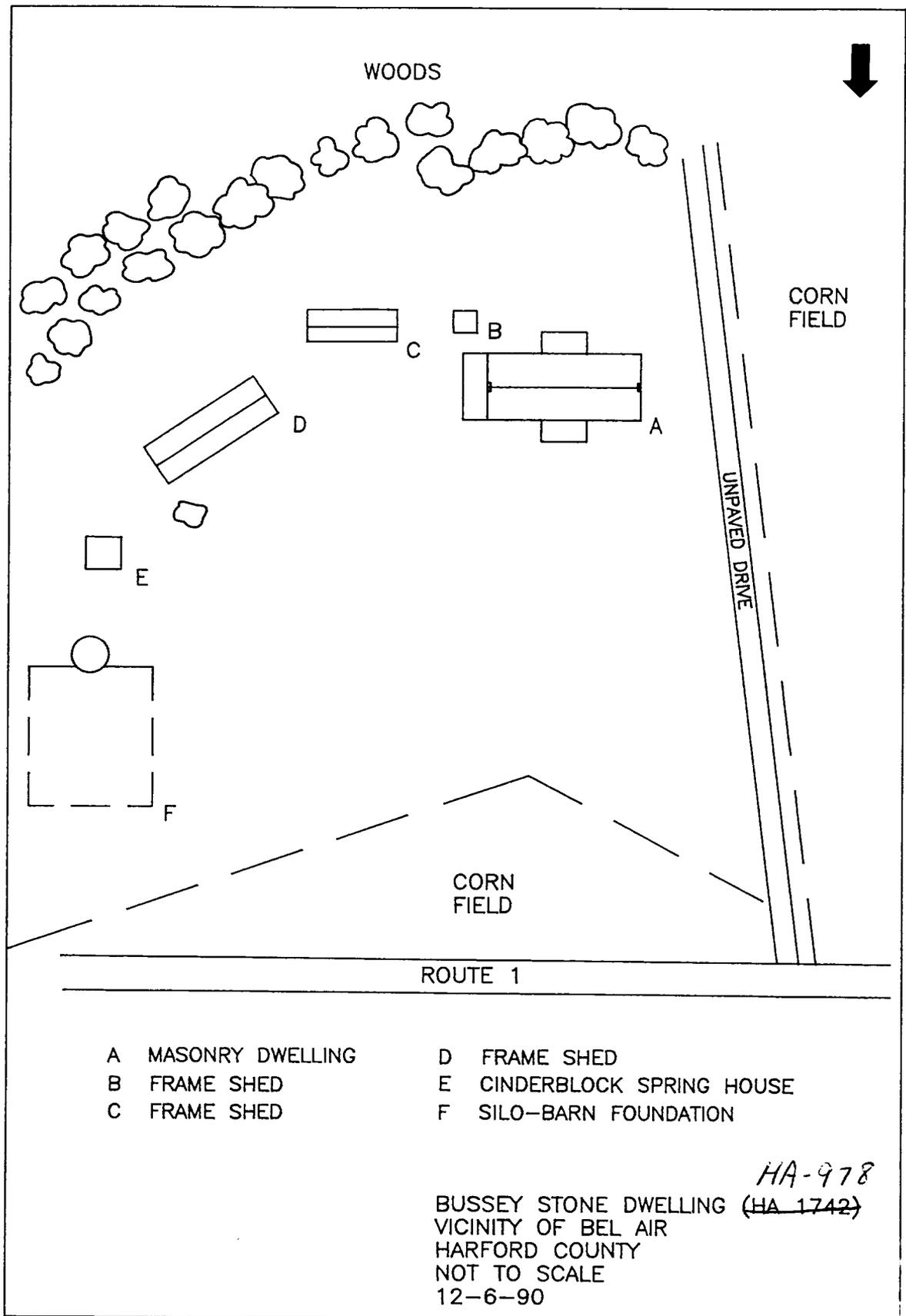
mss.: *Mill Seats and Forge Lands in Harford County* by Frederick Williams.
- Joerndt, Clarence V.
1972 *St. Ignatius, Hickory and its Missions*. Privately published.
- Larew, Marilyn M.
1981 *Bel Air: The Town Through its Buildings*. Published by the Town of Bel Air and the Maryland Historical Trust, Northfield Press, Edgewood, Maryland.
- A Map of Harford County, Maryland.
1858 Published by Jennings & Herrick.
- Martenet's Map of Harford County, Maryland.
1878 Published in Baltimore, Maryland.
- Preston, Walter G.
1972 *History of Harford County, Maryland*. Regional Publishing Company, Baltimore.
- Wright, C. Milton.
1967 *Our Harford Heritage, A History of Harford County, Maryland*. Privately published.

Bussey Stone Dwelling
Survey No. ~~HA-1742~~ HA-978
10.1

10.1 Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

On its west boundary, Route 1-Conowingo Road bounds the property. Ruff's Mill Road bounds the property to the north with farmland on its east and south borders. The property contains 206.30 acres and is listed as Parcel 45 on the property tax map of Harford County, Maryland.

This boundary includes the dwelling and outbuildings that give the property its agricultural character.



- | | | | |
|---|------------------|---|--------------------------|
| A | MASONRY DWELLING | D | FRAME SHED |
| B | FRAME SHED | E | CINDERBLOCK SPRING HOUSE |
| C | FRAME SHED | F | SILO-BARN FOUNDATION |

HA-978

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