

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HA-1082
13108 24235

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC La Vista

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Watervale Road

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Walter Sterbak

Telephone #: 877-7476

STREET & NUMBER Watervale Road

CITY, TOWN Fallston VICINITY OF _____ STATE, zip code Maryland 21047

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: GCB 291

Folio #: 412

STREET & NUMBER 40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN Bel Air STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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 checked="" 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

This three-part home faces southwards and parallels Watervale Road. The principal part of the house is perpendicular to the road and is of two and one-half stories. Two other brick units are attached in tandem to this main portion and are of two stories. The larger unit is five bays across and two deep. The adjacent unit is four bays wide and the northernmost portion is three bays by two. Most of the walls are common bond brick, with the exception of those on the eastern and western sides, which have no headers. The center unit has an eastern embrasure of scored stucco, while the northernmost wing is brick over stone. All of the windows are 6 X 6, in recently appointed frames. The main section has flat brick arches over its windows. Cellar windows are randomly located throughout the building. Three entryways are located along the eastern exposure, two on the middle unit. The center one features a stained-glass transom. The main portal is centered on the southern extreme, with ornate sidelights and transom, as well as a pediment frontispiece. Two more doorways are on the northern walls of the main house, fronted with marble steps. All of these sections are covered by gable-flank roofs of slate, trimmed with a soffit. Three gabled dormers are located on the southern slope of the principal roof. A small gabled pediment with columns sits on marble steps over the main entrance, while an eight-bay shed-roofed porch runs the length of the eastern wall of the entire complex. There are five corbeled brick chimneys; two pairs of flush-ends on the extremes of the main house and the middle section, and a single inside-end on the northern most embrasure.

South of the house are a barn and shop with stone walls and gable-flank roofs.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

ERIOD		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 checked="" 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	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The tract on which this farm is located was originally a 1000-acre land grant, but the earliest recording in the deeds show it as belonging to the Amoss family. The 1783 Tax List shows Walter, William, Jr., and James Amoss, Jr., as owning over 400 acres of Bond's Forest and the Grove. The oldest part of the dwelling is situated on the northernmost tip of the "L", and existed during the 1790's, according to the Federal Tax List. The connecting segment was constructed in the early 1800's, while the largest part of the house dates from the Civil War. William Amoss, who owned the land prior to the end of the Eighteenth Century, was active in the establishment of the Fallston Little Falls Meeting House. The stone shop once doubled as a blacksmith shop and smokehouse, and was erected in 1811. The farm changed hands a number of times during the 1800's, the 1878 owner listed as William Edelin.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Federal Tax List of 1798
The Gateway; Fallston and Upper Crossroads Bicentennial Committee
Harford County Lnad Records
Martenet's Map of 1878
Maryland Tax List 1783 Harford County, 1970, Rhistoric Publications, Philadelphia.
Wright, C. Milton; Our Harford Heritage, 1967, French Bray, Baltimore.
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 185.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This tract is located on the southern side of Watervale Road, about 0.3 miles east of the intersection with Maryland State Route #152. It is opposite the Brook Hill Farms development.

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE	DATE
Paul L. Penrod/ site surveyor	July 30, 1976
ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE
Maryland Historical Trust	267-1212
STREET & NUMBER	STATE
Shaw House, 21 State Circle	Maryland
CITY OR TOWN	
Annapolis	

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

TITLE SEARCH

<u>Libre</u>		<u>Folio</u>	
GCB	291	412	In 1945, Frank V. Sterbak bought La Vista, of 185 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres and 24 perches, from William James.
JAR	166	61	Henry L. Rullman sold the parcel to Frank Sterbak in 1919.
JAR	132	340	Charles W. Shaw sold the farm to Henry L. Rullman in 1911.
WSF	117	156	Charles W. Shaw acquired 220 acres from William Winchester in 1906.
WSF	109	446	Catherine Geffert and others conveyed the tract to William Winchester in 1903.
ALJ	42	179	In 1881, Jane and William Edelin transferred the property to Sarah Edelin, it consisting of 472 acres.
ALJ	42	182	Sarah Edelin sold the farm to Jane Edelin in 1881.
WHD	19	308	William B. Duvall conveyed 472 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres and 21 perches to William M. Edelin in 1867.
WG	14	17	William B. Duvall purchased 780 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres of Mt. Vista Farm from George R. Amos in 1863.
Will			
AJ	C	237	James Amoss left the farm to George R. Amoss in 1811.
JLG	N	341	William Amos conveyed 193 acres of the Grove to James Amos of James in 1797.
JLG	N	293	A similar deal in the same year, involving the same parties and the same tract amounted to the transfer of 138 acres.

NA-1082





La Vista HA-1082
Fallston, MD
Paul Penrod
South

3/76



La Vista HA-1082
Fallston, MD
Paul Penrod
Northwest

3/76



La Vista Outbuildings HA-1082
Fallston, MD
Paul Penrod 3/76
West