

John Henry Kelly House
CH-736
Bel Alton
Private

Circa 1910

Demolished shortly after being surveyed, the former John Henry Kelly House was erected around 1906 and consisted of a simple 2-story frame structure with a one-story gable-end dependency that faced southwest toward the main road connecting Bel Alton to Newton. The two-bay main block had a single-pile four-room plan having two rooms on the first floor and two above accessed by an enclosed quarter-turn corner stair. Like the nearby Charles Sweeney House, the John Henry Kelly House stands on land purchased from members of the Cox family and was originally part of the farm known as Rich Hill(CH-177NR).

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-736

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic John Henry Kelly House
 other _____

2. Location

street and number 8915 Dove Drive _____ not for publication
 city, town Bel Alton _____ vicinity
 county Charles

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

name F&T Builders
 street and number 10970 Earnshaw Lane telephone unknown
 city, town La Plata state MD zip code 20646

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 55 p. 7
 city, town Palpatte liber 3297 folio 535

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report
- Other _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
				0

7. Description

Inventory No. CH-736

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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

Demolished shortly after being surveyed, the former John Henry Kelly House erected in 1906, was a simple two-story frame structure with a one-story gable end dependency that faced southwest toward the main road connecting Bel Alton to Newtown. A dirt lane extended northwest from Bel Alton-Newtown Road to the Kelly House before turning sharply to the southwest, leading to a similar structure known as the Sweetney House (CH-735). From here it turns to the southeast and then southwest before exiting onto Doctor Spencer Road. Two ruinous shed-roof chicken houses also shared the site.

The main block of the John Henry Kelly Houses had a single-pile, four-room plan. Two rooms were found on the first floor and two above. A quarter turn stair on the southeast wall provided access to the second floor while a narrow, steep latter provided access to a partially finished loft in the attic. All interior walls were covered with tongue and groove planking.

Rolled asphalt paper had been placed directly over the original weatherboard siding. The original metal roof remained. The cornice was simply boxed to conceal the overhanging rafters. A single concrete block exterior end chimney stood on the east wall of the main block, surrounded by the mid-20th century hyphen addition. The front elevation was symmetrical with two second story and two first floor windows. The first floor windows were divided by a centered doorway. The westernmost gable and was without fenestration while the rear elevation had a single first floor door and window. The dependency had a single door on the front elevation and a single square window centered on the remaining exposed elevations.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-736

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates	1906	Architect/Builder	Unknown
Construction dates	1906		

Evaluation for:

National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Although now demolished, the John Henry Kelly House was one of a dwindling number of representative examples of the types of vernacular dwellings associated with small landowners or tenant families in the early 20th century. In 1906, John Henry Kelly purchased 4 3/4 acres from Samuel Cox, JR and his wife Ann Key Cox, of nearby Rich Hill, (CH-177NR). The property had been laid out by S. Henry Cox in 1903. The property remained in the possession of Kelly family heirs until recently, when the lot was sold to a developer and the building demolished.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-736

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 4.0

Acreage of historical setting 4.0

Quadrangle name Popes Creek

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

This site is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 55, p. 7.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cathy Hardy/Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Charles County Planner

dat 3/18/2002

street and number 200 Baltimore Street

telephone 301-396-5815

city or town La Plata

stat MD zip code 20646

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-736

Section 8 Page 1

John Henry Kelly House
name of property
Charles County, MD
county and state

Chain of Title:

- 1976 Emma Marie Winston, Representativr for the estate of John Henry Kelly to Emma Marie Winston. 4 3/4 acres, being same laid out by S. Henry Cox, surveyor in January 1903.
427/275
- 1906 Samuel Cox, Jr and Ann Key Cox to Henry Kelly, also known as John Henry Kelly
16/683

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-736

Section 9 Page 1

John Henry Kelly House
name of property
Charles County, Maryland
county and state

Major Bibliographic References:

Brown, Jack D., et al. Charles County, Maryland, A History.
Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, LaPlata, Maryland.

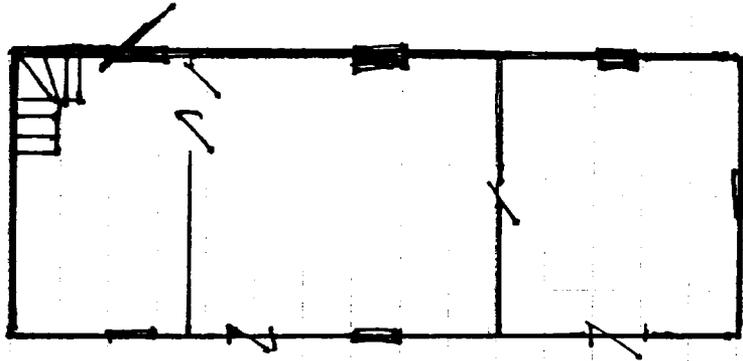
Klapthor, Margaret Brown. The History of Charles County, Maryland.
LaPlata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.

CH-736 Charles County, MD.

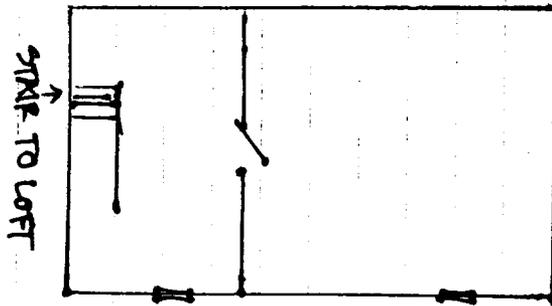
Name: JOHN HENRY KELLY HS.

Location: BEL ALTON

Quad: _____

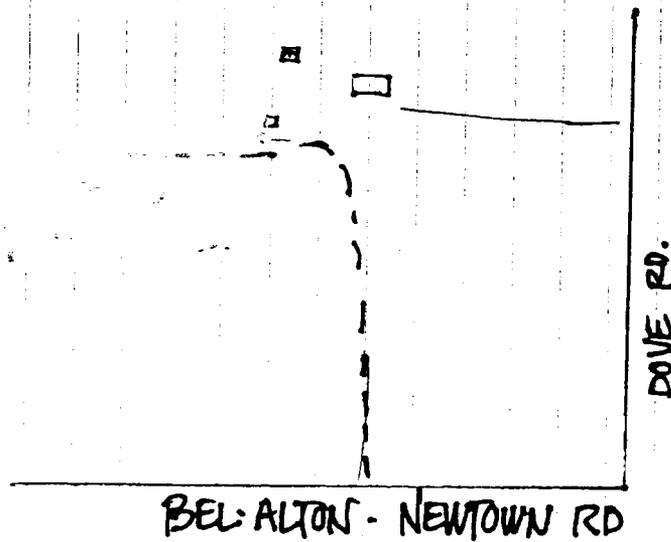


FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

SITE PLAN:





CA-736

John Henry Kelley House (demolished)

Charles Co., MD

C. Hardy

1/2002

MD

SHPO

FRONT ELEVATION

1 of 3



CH-736
John Henry Kelley House (Demolished)

Charles Co, MD

C Hardy

1/2002

MD 5480

REAR ELEVATION

2 OF 3



CH-736

John Henry Kelley House (demolished)

Charles Co, MD

C. Hardy

1/2002

MD

SHPO

STAIR DETAIL, 2ND FLOOR to LOFT

3 of 3