S-34
Beverly
Princess Anne vicinity
private

Often cited as one of the most impressive houses of the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland, Beverly is an architectural representation of the highest level of wealth achieved during the post-Revolutionary era. Erected in a similar vein were nearby "Workington" (1793) and the Palladian-style houses of the eastern and western shores of Virginia.

Measuring sixty feet across by forty feet deep, Beverly is distinguished by an impressive two-and-half story, five-bay east elevation. Centered on the facade is a two-story, three-planed pavilion capped by a semi-octagonal roof. The steeply pitched hip roof is marked by two gable dormers, and twin brick chimneys rise from the core of the structure.

Similar to its aforementioned contemporaries, Beverly was planned on a generous scale with formal interiors enriched with Federal period woodwork. Common to many late eighteenth-century houses is its broad center passage often used for entertaining. To keep the passage space unobstructed, the stair was confined to its own room in the northwest corner.

The centerpiece to the King's Creek plantation was the brick dwelling, but estate and tax records define an extensive complex of domestic and agricultural buildings that accompanied the house. In addition to the, "elegant Brick dwelling house in good and compleat repair" the assessors for Somerset orphans court found
in August of 1804, another framed dwelling, an old kitchen, one large new
quarter, one barn with two side sheds, "one elegant granary," one stable with
two side sheds, one new corn house, one old corn house, one smoke house, one
milk house, one lumber house, one meat house, one school house, one necessary
house, one blacksmiths shop, one wind mill, a poultry house, one other stable,
and one ice house. Planted in the surrounding fields were 350 apple, 350
peach trees, and another 150 apple and peach trees.

The assessors also stated in their report that one third of the land was
to be annually cultivated on Indian corn, and it was their opinion that none
of the tobacco lots should be cultivated in Indian corn.

"Beverly" was erected by Nehemiah King II (1755-1802) on land that had
been passed down through three generations since its original purchase during
the late seventeenth century. Nehemiah's great-grandfather, Robert King I,
developed a large plantation between Kings and Back creeks before his death in
1696. In fact, "Beverly" stands on the tract of land originally known as
"Beverly", purchased from Christopher Rousby in 1681 (MA 489). The "Beverly"
name was dropped since Robert King's plantation was known as "Kingsland."
Robert King I died intestate, so his lands were devised to his only son and
heir, Robert King II, who bequeathed his estate in 1755 to son Nehemiah (EB 4/31).
Nehemiah King I occupied the old "Kingsland" plantation house until his death
in 1767 (EB 4/127), and he divided his estate between his children. To Robert
King he left the dwelling plantation, and to Nehemiah II he bequeathed
"Lands on King's Branch." Between his inheritance in 1767 and his death in 1802,
Nehemiah King II assembled the largest and most valuable plantation in Somerset
County. By 1798, Nehemiah controlled over 3500 acres, and his estate was
assessed at close to $20,000, by far the largest value of any Somerset plantation. Included in the list was a total of seventy-four slaves.

After Nehemiah King II’s death in 1802 the plantation was inherited by his son, Robert Jenkins Henry King, in whose hands the property remained until the mid nineteenth century. In 1857, a commission was established to divide the lands of Robert J.H. King between his rightful heirs, Charlotte King Waters, Laura King Barnes, Anne Maria King (alias Aurelia W. White), Henry N. King, and George King. During Isaac Barnes’ ownership he erected a second large house that stood south of the brick dwelling. This structure evidently burned during the nineteenth century, and is now marked by a mid nineteenth century archaeological site. In more recent years, "Beverly" was owned by Lynde Catlin who restored the house in the 1920s, and finally the Hayman family who currently occupy the house.
Form 10-300

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

1. NAME

COMMON
Beverly

AND OR HISTORIC:
Beverly

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 13

CITY OR TOWN:
Princess Anne

STATE:
Maryland

CITY OR TOWN:
Princess Anne

STATE:
Maryland

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY
(Choose One)

□ District □ Building
□ Site □ Structure
□ Object

OWNERSHIP
□ Public □ Private □ Both

PUBLIC ACQUISITION:
□ In Process □ Being Considered

STATUS
□ Occupied □ Unoccupied □ Preservation work in progress

ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC:
□ Yes: □ Restricted □ Unrestricted □ No

PRESENT USE
(Choose One at State or Appropriate)

□ Agricultural □ Government □ Park
□ Commercial □ Industrial □ Private Residence
□ Educational □ Military □ Religious
□ Entertainmen□ Museum □ Scientific
□ Transportation □ Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Francis Lake Hayman

STREET AND NUMBER:
Beverly

CITY OR TOWN:
Beaverly

STATE:
Maryland

CITY OR TOWN:
Princess Anne

STATE:
Maryland

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Somerset County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Princess Anne

STATE:
Maryland

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Maryland Register of Historic Places

DATE OF SURVEY:
1969

DEROGATORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Annapolis

STATE:
Maryland
Beverly combines the traditional Georgian elements of symmetry, repetition and regularity, with a prominently placed Federal period three-planed projection off the eastern facade of the house. The house measures forty feet by sixty feet and is of brick, now (1972) painted white, and laid in Flemish bond. There are two-and-a-half stories, the first and second stories being divided by a belt course of rubbed brick. The house stands on an "English basement" with a watertable. Two regularly spaced chimneys rise through the interior of the house. Under the eaves of the hip-roof is a cornice with rectangular dentils and modillions.

The eastern facade of the house contains a three-sided central-bay projection which rises two-and-a-half-stories. Within this projection is the main doorway of the house. The door panels are simple and beneath the broken pediment there is a fanlight. The two narrower flanking planes of the projection at the first floor level contain identical arch-capped windows. The entrance bay is flanked on each side by two rectangular windows of twenty-eight panes, sixteen over twelve - four across, seven down. These windows with their flat lintels are repeated on the second floor.

The western facade is flat but has an uncovered porch with Chippendale balustrade similar to that of the eastern facade. The central doorway with fanlight and flanking arched windows of the eastern facade are repeated on the western facade. There are four evenly spaced sixteen over twelve paneled windows on the western facade.

The northern and southern end elevations have three evenly spaced windows on each floor. There are two dormer windows on each of the eastern and western facades and one each on the northern and southern roof hips. There are shutters on all of the first floor windows although there are none on the second floor windows or the dormers.

The interior of the house was partially destroyed by fire in 1937 but was restored from plans drawn from the original house. The first floor is divided by a twelve foot wide central hall which extends the forty foot depth of the house. On the north side is the present dining room and staircase. On the south side of the hall are the living room and library. The second floor is a copy of the first with three bedrooms and a bath flanking the central hall.

The interior walls throughout are of plaster covered with canvas. The first floor ceilings are fourteen feet high and those of the second floor are thirteen and a half feet high. There are five fireplaces in the main section of the house. The interior woodwork, although not original, consists of cornices,
Beverly represents the social status and wealth achieved by a successful eighteenth century planter and his ancestors. The house was built by Nehemiah King II between 1785 and 1796. King was the great-grandson of Robert King, one of the most affluent early landholders in Somerset County. Robert King is traditionally known as an Irish baronet who first appeared in Somerset County in the late seventeenth century from Northampton County, Virginia. From his original 300 acre tract, King's heirs acquired over 1,500 acres which were then known corporately as Kingsland. Beginning in 1857, the estate was subdivided. Beverly, a part of the original Kingsland, today entails eighteen acres.

Though little is known about Nehemiah King II, who received the land from Nehemiah King I, the family seems to have been both politically and commercially active. The Kings were Protestant sympathizers during the American Revolution and certain members of the family were elected to public office.

Robert King I held numerous political offices including that of His Lordship's Justice of the Peace, and membership in the Provincial Court of Justice. He also represented Somerset County in the pre-Revolutionary provincial government and served as a military and naval officer respectively for Somerset. His son, Robert King II, was one of Maryland's first representatives to the General Assembly.

Nehemiah King, the builder of Beverly, became a friend of Jerome Bonaparte, brother of Napoleon, through Jerome's marriage in 1803 to Betsy Patterson of Baltimore. Historians have included Beverly in a plot to rescue Napoleon from exile on St. Helena Island. Plans were made for the Emperor to be transported up the Chesapeake Bay and into the Manokin River where he was to arrive at Beverly through a tunnel leading under the house from the nearby creek! Napoleon died before the rescue was attempted.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


(See Continuation Sheet)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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<td>SW</td>
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 212.4 acres

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

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

Louise H. Burnett

Maryland Historical Trust

2525 Riva Road

Annapolis

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 X
- Local

Name: Orlando Ridout IV
Title: State Liaison Officer of Maryland
Date: August 10, 1972

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register
#7. DESCRIPTION continued

moldings, door stiles and frames, and mantelpieces. All of this interior work was hand carved in the Adamesque style, using risettes, basketweave, and organic designs.

Extending from the western facade is an earlier two-story dependency. Much of the material and floor plan are original, including the flooring, mantelpieces, and solid brick end. There are four rooms on the second floor and two on the first. This structure is connected to the main house by a kitchen wing and colonnade, both added in the twentieth century.

#9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES continued

Beverly
Near Princess Anne, Somerset County
East Elevation
8/84  Paul Touart
Neg/MD. Historical Trust
BEVERLY

S-34
Beverly

5-34
Beverly S-34
Near Princess Anne, Somerset County
Stair Hall
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg/MD. Historical Trust
Beverly  
Princess Anne vic. Somerset Co.  
Photograph of stair hall, c. 1915  
Copied 7/87, Neg. Md Hist. Trust  
Courtesy of Hodgson family
Beverly S-34
Princess Anne vic. Somerset Co.
First floor hall, c. 1915
Copied 7/87, Neg. Md Hist Trust
Courtesy of Hodgson family
Beverly  
Princess Anne vic. Somerset Co.  
Documentary photograph of hall  
Copied 7/87, Neg. Md Hist. Trust  
Courtesy of Hodgson family
Beverly
Near Princess Anne, Somerset County
2nd Floor Hall Door
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg/MD. Historical Trust
Beverly S-34
Princess Anne vic. Somerset Co.
First floor hall ceiling, c.1915
Copied 7/87, Neg. Md Hist Trust
Courtesy of Hodgson family
Beverly 
Near Princess Anne, Somerset County 
Parlor Mantel 
8/84 Paul Touart 
Neg/MD. Historical Trust
Beverly S-34
Princess Anne vic. Somerset Co.
Photograph of parlor, c. 1915
Copied 7/87, Neg. Md. Hist. Trust
Courtesy of Hodgson family
Beverly S-34
Near Princess Anne, Somerset County
Hall Arch Detail
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg/MD. Historical Trust
Beverly S-34
Princess Anne vic. Somerset Co.
Northeast elevation, c. 1960
Courtesy of Maryland Hist. Society