

#23/62 BELMONT SITE & CEMETERY

DEAD 7-2002

5/20/97

Center of "slave quarters"

Anthony Reed

(301) 570-3607

(sister owner is "Dan Yee")



**Howard Hall / Belmont**  
19019 Gold Mine Road  
#23/062

Howard Hall, principally built in 1938, is located on the east side of Georgia Avenue, between Olney and Brookeville, on a two-acre parcel of land in the midst of a residential subdivision. The house is designed in a Colonial Revival/Jacobean style, characterized by a semi-circular double-story portico, and incorporates into its walls the shell of an 18th-century brick house known historically as Belmont. The 24-room Howard Hall was built by Captain Erik von der Heide, a German of high social standing. The house, which was built with custom-designed and hand-crafted interior details, including a stained-glass window with family crests and coats of arms, fell into disrepair in the 1960s, but was restored in the 1980s. Because the property provides neither a pure example of its mid-18th century period of construction, or its mid-20th-century period of construction, it lacks the requisite integrity necessary to meet the requirements for historic designation based on the criteria stated in Section 24A-3 of the *Historic Preservation Ordinance*.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING:** less than one acre on lots 29 and 74 of the Tanterra Subdivision.

Howard Hall  
M: 23-62  
Montgomery County, MD

Howard Hall, principally built in 1938, is located on the east side of Georgia Avenue, between Olney and Brookeville, on a two-acre parcel of land in the midst of a residential subdivision. The house is designed in a Colonial Revival/Jacobean style, characterized by a semi-circular double-story portico, and incorporates into its walls the shell of an 18th-century brick house known historically as Belmont. The 24-room Howard Hall was built by Captain Erik von der Heide, a German of high social standing. The house, which was built with custom-designed and hand-crafted interior details, including a stained-glass window with family crests and coats of arms, fell into disrepair in the 1960s, but was restored in the 1980s. Because the property provides neither a pure example of its mid-18th century period of construction, or its mid-20th-century period of construction, it lacks the requisite integrity necessary to meet the criteria of the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties or the National Register of Historic Places.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. M-23-62

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Belmont

common/other name Howard Hall

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number 19019 Gold Mine Rd. Not for publication \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Brookeville vicinity X state Maryland code MD  
county Montgomery code \_\_\_\_\_ zip code 20833

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

=====

4. National Park Service Certification N/A

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing		Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	_____	_____	Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Listing \_\_\_\_\_ No X

=====  
6. Function or Use  
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

=====  
7. Description  
=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

roof Cross gable; slate

walls Brick

other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

=====  
8. Statement of Significance  
=====

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

=====  
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance 1747-1938  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates 1747  
1938  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1



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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Farquhar, Roger Brooke, "Belmont Was One of County's Outstanding Places Before it Was Razed a Decade Ago," *The Record of Montgomery County*, (circa 1948).

Farquhar, Roger Brooke, *Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, MD.* Silver Spring, MD., 1952, 1962.

Forman, Henry Chandlee, *Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland* (Easton, MD.), 1934.

"Howard Hall: An Historic Estate, Montgomery County, Maryland," Real Estate brochure, n.d.

Kahl, Norman, "A Mansion is Saved," *The Evening Star*, Real Estate Section (B), September 1, 1972.

"Mansion in Brookeville is design showcase," *The Gaithersburg Gazette*, May 6, 1982.

Montgomery County Land Records, Montgomery County, Maryland.

Shulman, Roberta F. "Stately Howard Hall Retains its Dignity," *The Sentinel*, August 15, 1985.

Maps and Drawings and Photographs

Hopkins, G.M., *Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington, including the County of Montgomery, Maryland*, 1879.

Martenet and Bond, *Map of Montgomery County*, 1865.

=====  
10. Geographical Data  
=====

Acreege of Property less than one acre

**Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)**

Howard Hall occupies Lots 29 and 74 of the Tanterra Subdivision. The cemetery, on Parcel 728 is owned by a different owner.

**Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)**

Howard Hall is located on the site of the historic Belmont house and incorporates part of the structure into its walls.

=====  
11. Form Prepared By  
=====

name/title Kimberly Williams/Michele Naru, Architectural Historians  
organization M-NCPPC date \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number 8787 Georgia Avenue telephone 301/563-3403  
city or town Silver Spring state MD zip code 20910  
=====

12. Property Owner

=====  
name Richard H. Kolb et al  
street & number 19019 Gold Mine Rd. telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Brookeville, MD state MD zip code 20833  
=====

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Inventory No. M-23-62

Belmont/Howard Hall

name of property

Montgomery County, MD

county and state

=====  
Howard Hall, principally built in 1938, is located on the east side of Georgia Avenue, between Olney and Brookeville, on a two-acre parcel of land in the midst of a residential subdivision. The house is designed in a Colonial Revival/Jacobean style, characterized by a semi-circular double-story portico, and incorporates into its walls the shell of an 18th-century brick house known historically as Belmont.<sup>1</sup>

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

The original house on the site, Belmont, was built circa 1747 as a two-story, five-bay, central-passage-plan structure with partially engaged brick end chimneys. The principal elevation of the house faced south, with a single-bay, Tuscan-columned entry portico on center. This building stood on the site until 1938, when its shell was incorporated into a new, larger dwelling, dubbed Howard Hall.

Howard Hall was built using the exterior walls of Belmont as one wing of a new and much enlarged structure. Generally L-shaped in plan, the house today consists of two principal wings, including the shell of Belmont, a new wing to the north of this shell, and several extensions off of the shell. The new wing, which extends perpendicular to the shell and faces east, forms the principal elevation of the house. It is defined by the semi-circular, double-story entry portico.

Exterior Description

The east elevation of Howard Hall, therefore, includes this new portico entry wing and the end wall of the original Belmont. The semicircular portico is supported by two fluted Doric columns, purchased at an auction in Ellicott City.<sup>2</sup> The entry itself is enhanced by a fanlight and sidelights and a second story balconied door above. The original end wall of Belmont retains its exterior end chimney, including the brick shoulder tiles and its corbeled cap.

The south elevation of Howard Hall includes the original south wall of Belmont, off of which projects a single-bay, two-story wing (a single-story, hipped-roof sun room then projects from this wing).

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<sup>1</sup> Tradition holds that Belmont was erected ca. 1747. However, historic photographs of the house before 1938 show federal influences in the building and would thus indicate a later date of construction.

<sup>2</sup> "Mansion in Brookeville is design showcase," *The Gaithersburg Gazette*, May 6, 1982.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 2

Inventory No. M-23-62

Belmont/Howard Hall

name of property

Montgomery County, MD

county and state

=====  
All of the window openings of the original south elevation have been enlarged and the windows replaced. The two-story wing cuts into the front slope of the original gable roof, forming a cross gable wing on its east end. This wing is one-bay deep and one-bay wide with single window openings on both stories. The sun room wing abutting the two-story ell is three bays long and one bay wide. Each bay is defined by round-arched openings with French doors and fanlights.

The interior of the house contains 24 rooms, which during the property's heyday under the ownership of Captain von der Heide, were sumptuously appointed with massive mantels, crystal chandeliers and wall sconces.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 1

Inventory No. M-23-62  
Belmont/Howard Hall  
name of property  
Montgomery County, MD  
county and state

=====

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The property known as Howard Hall is located west of Georgia Avenue, and north of Olney in Montgomery County. The property includes a large brick dwelling, constructed in 1938, that incorporated into its structure the shell of a mid-18th-century dwelling on the site, historically known as Belmont. Designed in a mid-20th century Colonial Revival/Jacobean style, the 24-room Howard Hall was built by Captain Erik von der Heide, a German of high social standing. The house, which was built with custom-designed and hand-crafted interior details, including a stained-glass window with family crests and coats of arms, fell into disrepair in the 1960s, but was restored in the 1980s. Because the property provides neither a pure example of its mid-18th century period of construction, or its mid-20th-century period of construction, it lacks the requisite integrity to meet the criteria of the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties or the National Register of Historic Places.

Historic Context:

Howard Hall was erected in 1938 on the site of a mid-18th-century dwelling called Belmont. Belmont was constructed in 1747 on a 800-acre tract of land by William Waters, who inherited the land from his father, Samuel Waters. Belmont was a two-story, five-bay, central-passage-plan, brick dwelling with brick end chimneys.

The house and the property, which was productive farmland, remained in the Waters family for several generations. In 1831, one of the first reapers, invented by Cyrus McCormick, was apparently tested at Belmont, and in the years following the Civil War, Belmont was noted for producing some of the heaviest crops in the area.<sup>3</sup>

In 1842, at the death of Ignatius, Sr., a son of William Waters, his extensive estate was divided into three parcels, and bequeathed to three sons. In addition, several acres were set aside for St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church, on which the denomination erected a church building and started a cemetery. From 1842 until 1910, the church paid one cent per annum rent for the property; after 1910, the Waters family executed a deed giving the land outright to the church.

Basil Worthington Waters inherited the Belmont house, its several hundred acres of surrounding farmland, and its agricultural and domestic outbuildings, including slaves quarters. Basil Waters

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<sup>3</sup> Farquhar, 107.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 2

Inventory No. M-23-62  
Belmont/Howard Hall  
name of property  
Montgomery County, MD  
county and state

=====  
lived at Belmont with his wife, Margaret Dorsy Sollers of Frederick County, until his death in 1864. Basil left Belmont to his son, Thomas Worthington Waters, then only fifteen years old. One of the Waters uncles managed the farm until Thomas finished school. Upon taking over the reigns, Thomas remained at Belmont until his death in 1929. Following his death, the house and 300 acres passed to his heirs, who, in 1938 sold it to Captain Erik von der Heide.

Upon purchasing the Belmont property, Erik von der Heide remodeled and enlarged the 18th-century house beyond recognition, and redubbed the property Howard Hall. Captain Erik von der Heide, a German of high social standing, spared no expense in building Howard Hall. Designed in a Colonial Revival/Jacobean style, the house contains 24 rooms, custom-designed and hand-crafted interior details, including a stained-glass window with family crests and coats of arms.

In the late 1960s, developer Carl Freeman purchased the property, converting the former agricultural land into a residential subdivision called Tanterra. The house was left uninhabited, and fell into disrepair until it was purchased by Ralph Duane in 1972. Ralph Duane, president of Duane Real Estate in Wheaton, purchased the house and 2-1/2 acres of land with the intention of renovating the house and then selling it. The renovation was extensive and included faithfully reproducing the von der Heide stained glass window from the original templates.<sup>4</sup>

Duane completed the renovation and put Howard Hall on the market, but was still the owner in 1982. That year, the house became the site of the "Interiors 82" design show house presented by the Potomac Chapter of The American Society of Interior Designers.

In 1984, Christopher Reynolds, III and his uncle, Dr. Stewart Gordon purchased Howard Hall from the bank. Reynolds, heir to the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco fortune, and Gordon, director of music at the University of Maryland, envisioned transforming Howard Hall into a "Maryland version of Dumbarton Oaks."<sup>5</sup> The following year, however, the duo moved to Long Island, putting the house again up for sale. Howard Hall is currently owned by Richard H. Kalb, et al.

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<sup>4</sup> "Mansion in Brookeville is design showcase," *The Gaithersburg Gazette*, May 6, 1982.

<sup>5</sup> "Stately Howard Hall Retains Its Dignity," *The Sentinel*, August 15, 1985.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M-23-62

Belmont/Howard Hall  
name of property  
Montgomery County, MD  
county and state

=====

**HISTORIC CONTEXT:**

**Geographic Organization:** Piedmont

**Chronological/Development Period (s):**  
Rural Agrarian Intensification;  
Modern Period

**Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s):** Architecture, Landscape  
Architecture, and Community Planning.

**RESOURCE TYPE(S)**

**Category:** Standing Structure

**Historic Environment:** Rural

**Historic Function (s):** Domestic/Single Dwelling

**Known Design Source:**

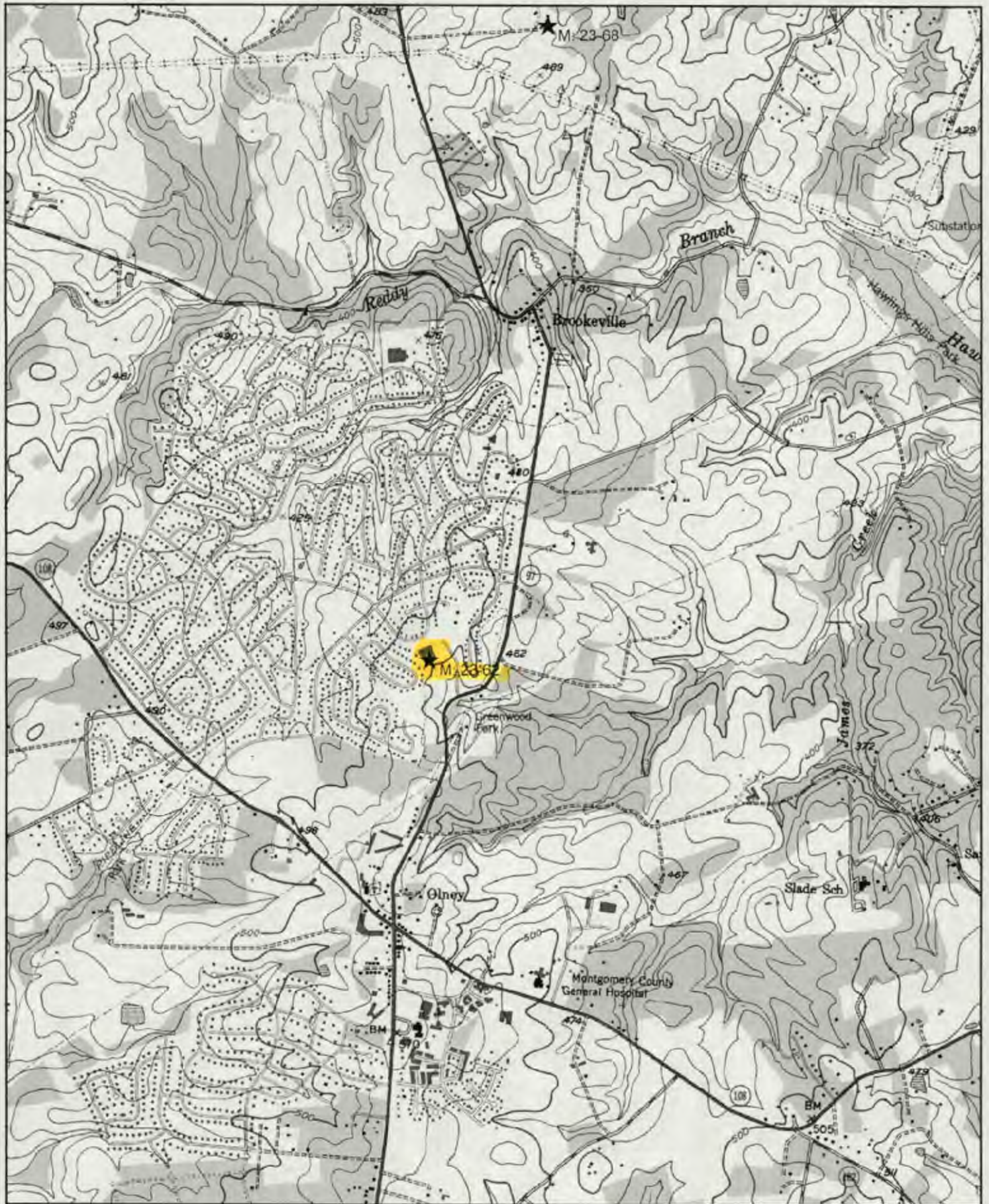
MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M-23-62  
Belmont/Howard Hall  
name of property  
Montgomery County, MD  
county and state

=====  
Chain of Title:

- 1747 William Waters built "Belmont".
- 1938 "Belmont" mansion torn down, "Howard Hall"  
mansion erected on the site.
- "Heirs of Thomas W. Waters sold the old  
home 'Belmont' to Mr. and Mrs. Van der  
Heide of Washington. They tore down the  
brick house and erected a larger and more  
modern dwelling, including 7 bath-rooms."  
(Annals V, p 143)

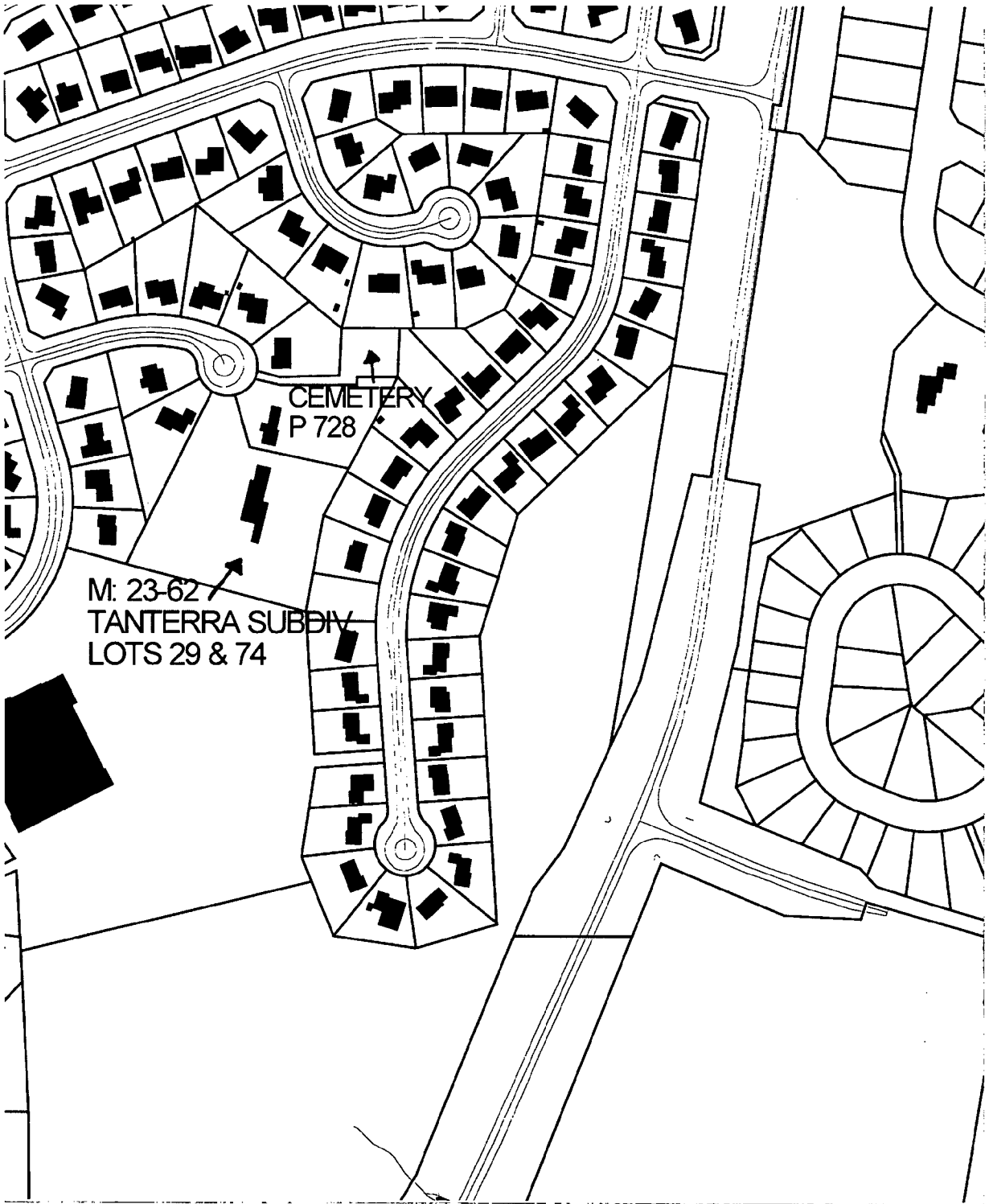




Name: SANDY SPRING  
Date: 7/13/99  
Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

Location: 039° 10' 01.7" N 077° 03' 41.0" W  
Caption: BELMONT (M: 23-62)  
19019 Gold Mine Place  
18900 Alpenglow Lane

# BELMONT SITE & CEMETERY (M 23-62)



Casual User Application



MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND PLANNING  
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
8787 Georgia Avenue - Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760



Scale 1" = 295'



Technology  
Research & Technology Center





23/62 \*  
BELMONT  
SITE

Parking

Play

Area

GREENWOOD  
ELEM. SCHOOL

BM 511  
462.90

462.00

131



HERITAGE

GOLD MINE CT.

GOLD MINE PL.

HILLS

514 HOLLOW TER

ALPENGLLOW

GEORGIA AVENUE

DRIVE

Pool

Pool

477

503

491

490.55

494

493

494

508

487

97

500

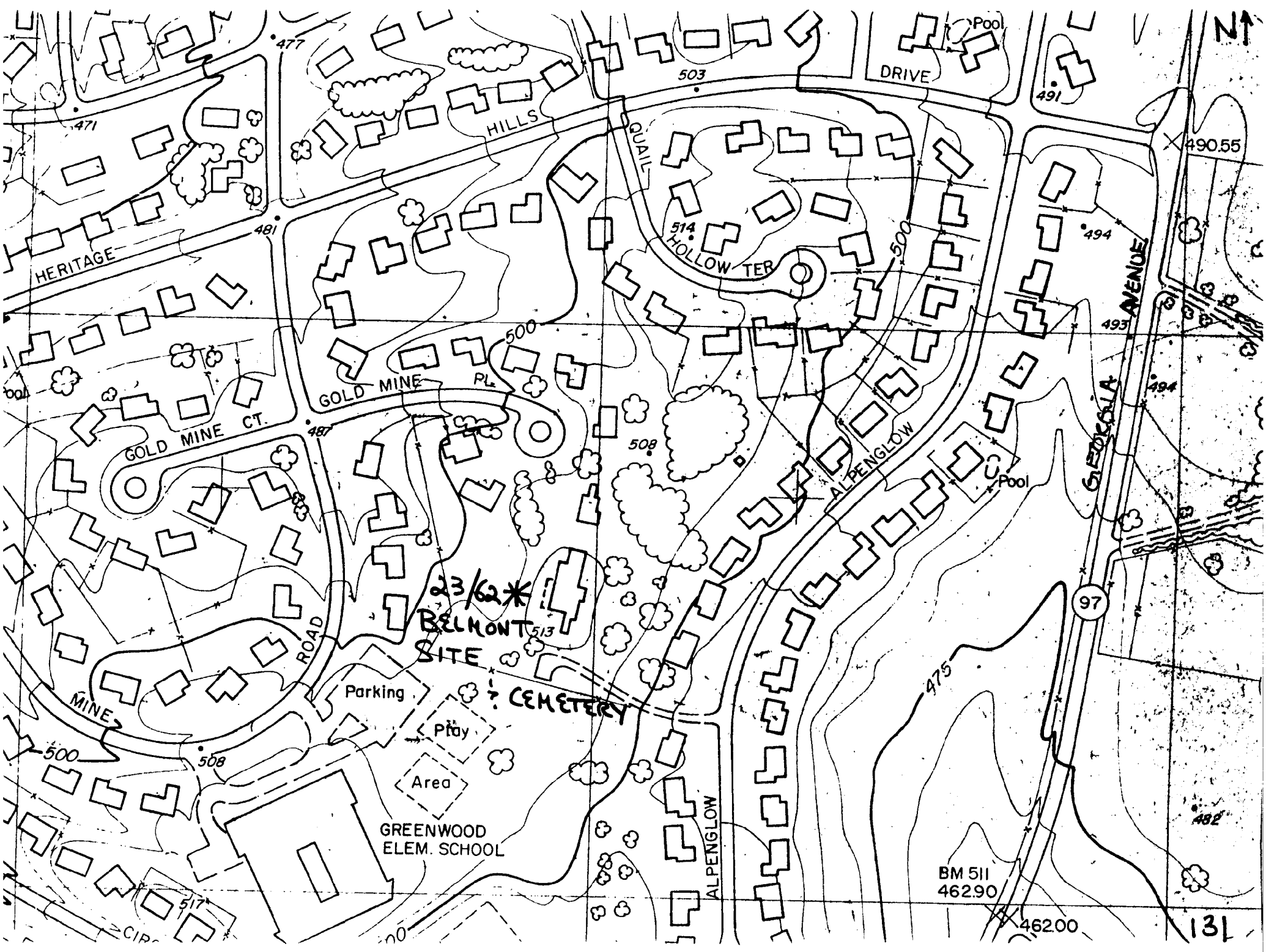
508

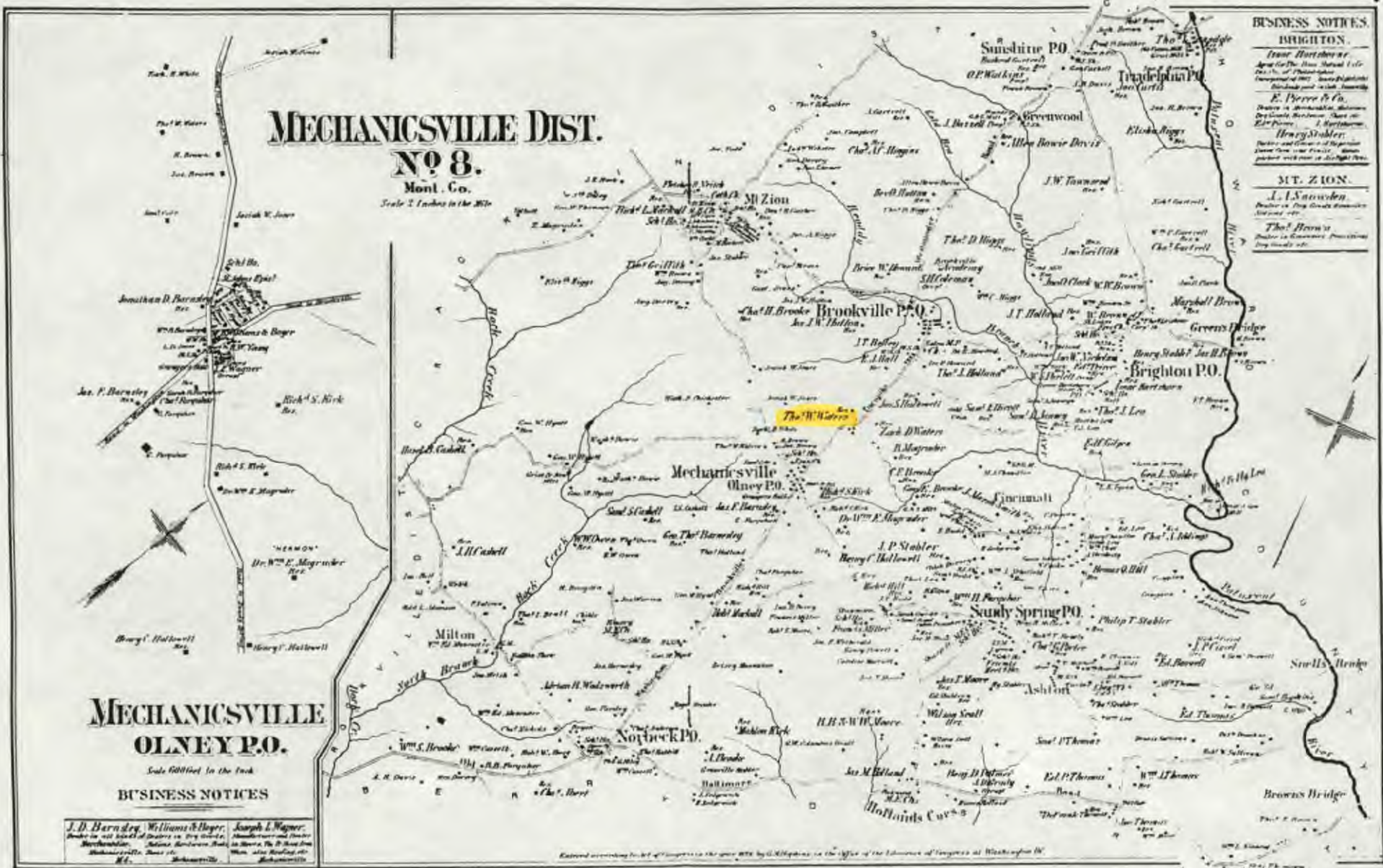
475

482

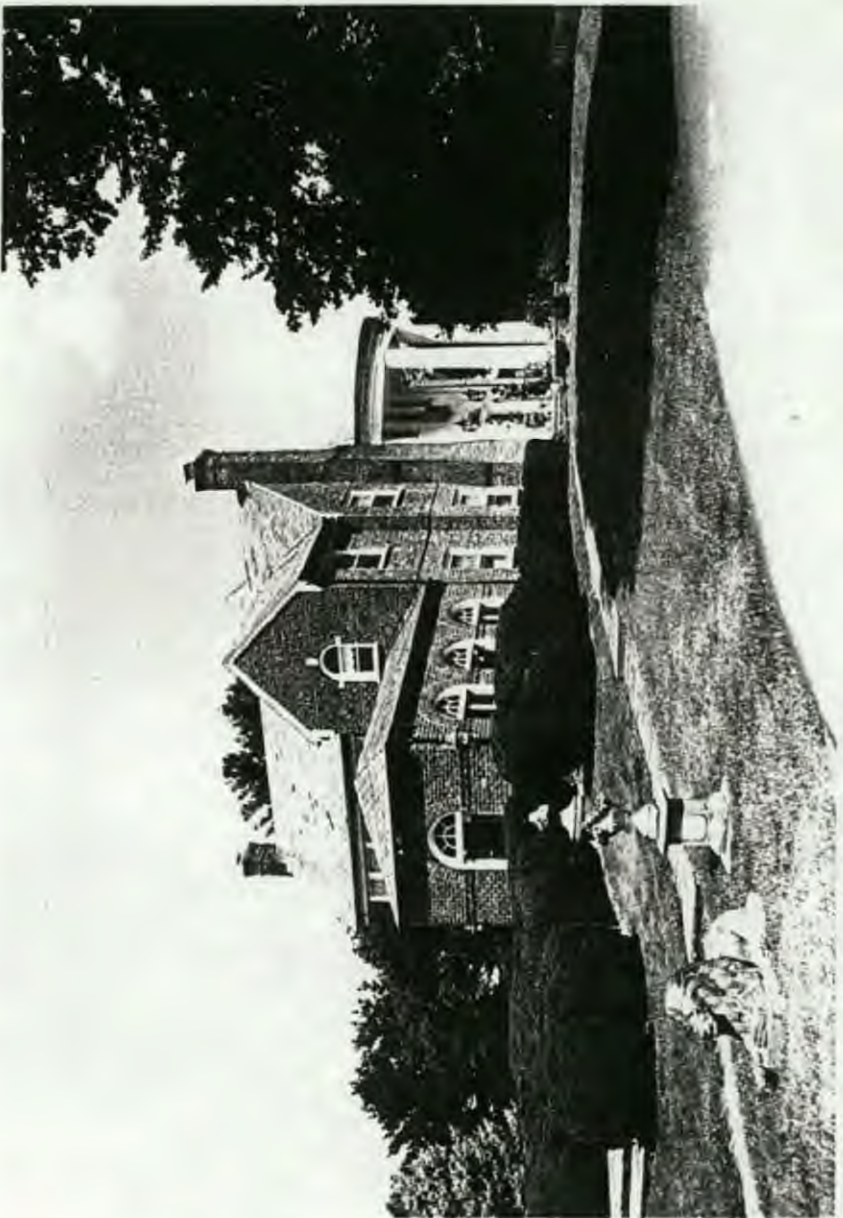
517

500





Hopkins, G.M., comp. Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington, including the County of Montgomery, Maryland, 1879. Reprint. Rockville, MD.: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1975.



24 January 2000

Mary Kolb  
19019 Gold Mine Road  
Brookeville, MD 20833

Mrs. Kolb:

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me today. As promised, I am sending you the Draft Maryland Historical Trust Form that was used in the preparation of the *Public Hearing (Preliminary) Draft Amendment*. This form has also been considered in formulating the staff recommendation to remove your property from the *Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County*.

I appreciate your concern and interest in the process. I would suggest using this form and the materials referenced within it (Section 9, Bibliography) when considering a statement to the Historic Preservation Commission. Both public commentary and correspondence will be considered by the Commission, and therefore I would suggest that you send them a letter if you are unable to attend the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

If you have any other questions concerning this matter, please give me a call, Monday through Wednesday, at (301) 463 3400.

Sincerely,

Brian Michael Lione  
Historic Preservation Planner

enc (1)

23-62

Belmont ↓

on Georgia Avenue, north of Olney,  
on west side, now developed  
into subdivision called Tauterna

old mansion torn down

new house built by Van der Heide  
about 1938

and called Howard Hall

see Farquhar 1st edition - Belmont  
2nd edition - Howard Hall

Belmont I (Water's Farm)

1938 spring - heirs of Thomas W. Waters  
sold the old home "Belmont" to Mr.  
& Mrs. Van der Heide (sic) of Wash.  
"They tore down the brick house and  
erected a larger and more modern  
dwelling, including 7 bath-rooms."  
Annals V p. 143

Belmont I

built 1747 by William Waters

torn down 1938 by Van der Heide

see Farquhar p 104

## Belmont I

The Riggs Family of Md - John B Riggs

page 269 Footnote

"... John Waters Gent. is believed to have founded the line in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, in the seventeenth century. William Waters (son in descent from John) founded one of the branches of the family in Montgomery County. He was seated at 'Belmont' in Frederick (now Montgomery) County, circa 1750. His son, William, married Susannah Magruder, and had issue: 1 Nathaniel (qv p. 271) 2 Horace, married Charity D. Boyd (see supra) 4

## Belmont I

D S Nash

in 1925 known as Waters' place  
sold to Vander Heide. German admiral  
house torn down about 1938 + large  
brick house erected - still standing  
in midst of Tastera  
house + 400 acres sold to Carl Freeman  
developer

See Furguson p 106 for old house

## Belmont I - Bowshville

Annals Vol V

p. 143

heirs of Thos W. Waters sold Belmont  
to Adm. + Mrs. von der Heide of Wash  
Spring 1937.

They tore down the brick house + built  
a larger + more modern dwelling  
with 7 bathrooms



23/02

Belmont - Waters Family Graveyard

1908 - Zachariah D. Waters died near  
Bermantown & buried in Waters  
burial ground at Belmont

Itunals III p. 453

Belmont<sup>I</sup> - Howard Hall

23/02

Location numbers

Mtg. Co. Hist. Atlas

23-62

A.T. Halliwell's map

8(A+B) at NW H.8

Belmont I

on Georgia Avenue, north of Olney,  
on west side, now developed  
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old mansion torn down

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see Farguhar 1st edition - Belmont  
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Annals V p. 143

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see Farquhar p 106 In old house

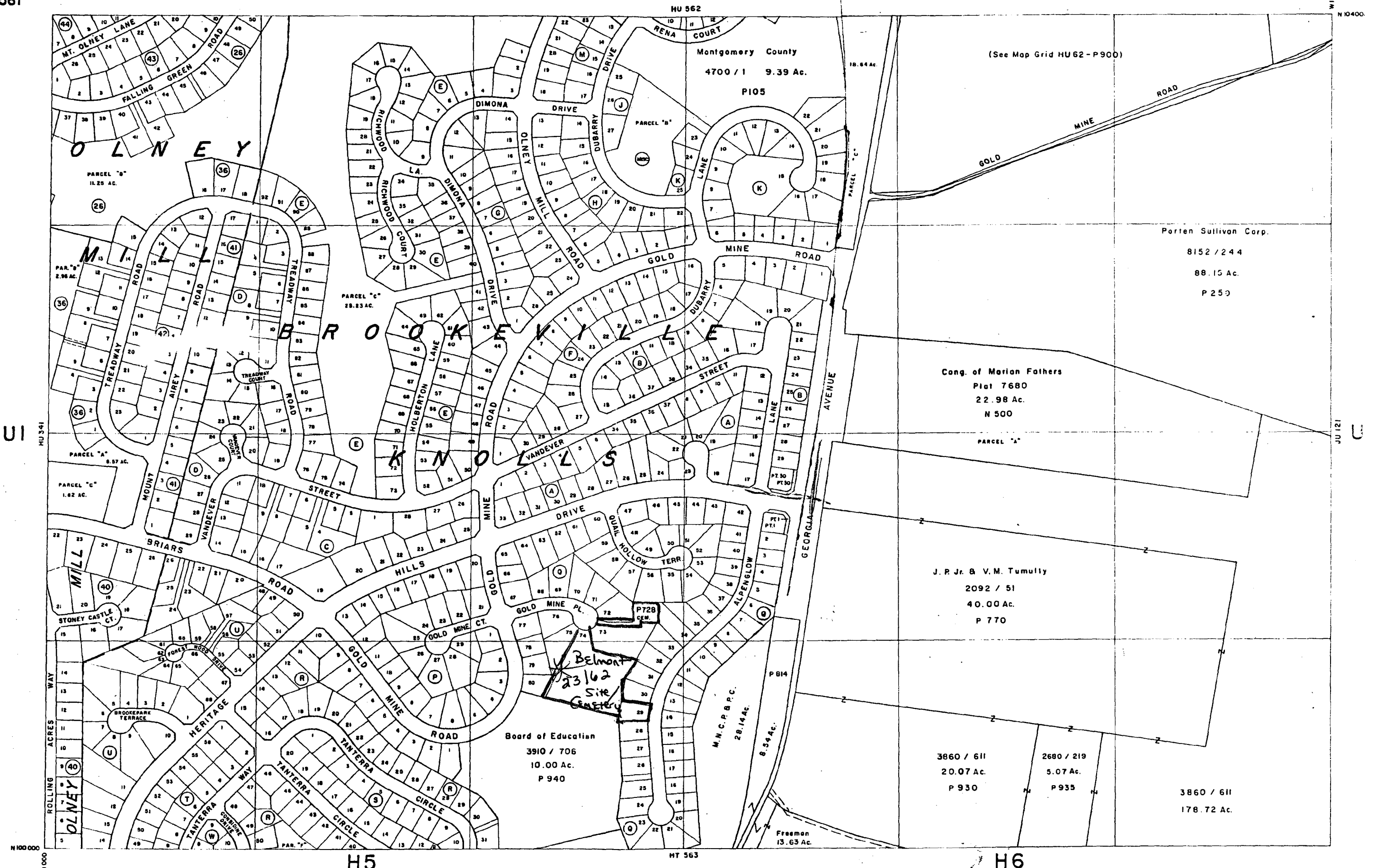
Belmont I - Snowshille

Annals Vol V

p.143

heirs of Thos W. Waters sold Belmont  
to Adm. + Mrs. Von der Heide of Wash  
Spring 1937

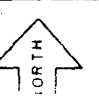
They tore down the brick house + built  
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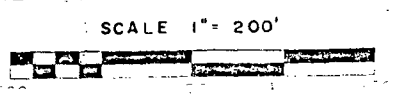
ROADS AND STREAMS ARE CONTROLLED FROM PLANIMETRIC MAPS COMPILED BY MNCBPC AND USGS; COORDINATES SHOWN ARE BASED ON W.S.S.C. COORDINATE SYSTEM. PROPERTY LINES ARE COMPILED BY THIS OFFICE FROM DEED DESCRIPTIONS AND ARE NOT TO BE INTERPRETED AS ACTUAL FIELD SURVEYS. USERS NOTING ERRORS ARE URGED TO NOTIFY THE DRAFTING SECTION, DIVISION OF ASSESSMENTS, RM 400, 51 MONROE ST., ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

**LEGEND**  
 - - - - - ELECTION DISTRICT BOUNDARY  
 ..... CORPORATE BOUNDARY  
 P-768 OR N-768 PARCEL NO. IS USED FOR OWNERSHIP IDENTIFICATION AND MUST BE PRECEDED BY GRID REFERENCE READING

COPYRIGHT BY STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION, OFFICE OF SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSMENTS



DIST.	CURRENT TO
8	7-1-88



Map HU 561

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Belmont Site & Cemetery

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Georgia Ave. (Rte. 97) (in "Tanterra" Subdivision)

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Brookeville

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

**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 checked="" 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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Ralph W. Duane-Duane Real Estate

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Wheaton

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

— 1936

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D.C.

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The present brick mansion here is a recent rebuilding of a 1950's country estate. The 18th Century brick house was razed about 1950 by Cap't. Van Der Heide. However, immediately to the north of this house is an old brick structure that was allegedly a slave quarters for the original house. It is two-stories in height, and has old brick, laid in common bond, and is now attached to a mid-20th Century brick house. Just beyond this is the old Waters family graveyard, that sits under a large fir tree.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Farquhar, R.B. OLD HOMES & HISTORY OF MONT. CO., MD. (1961)  
pp. 185-187.

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

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

8/15/75

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE

589-1480

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring

STATE

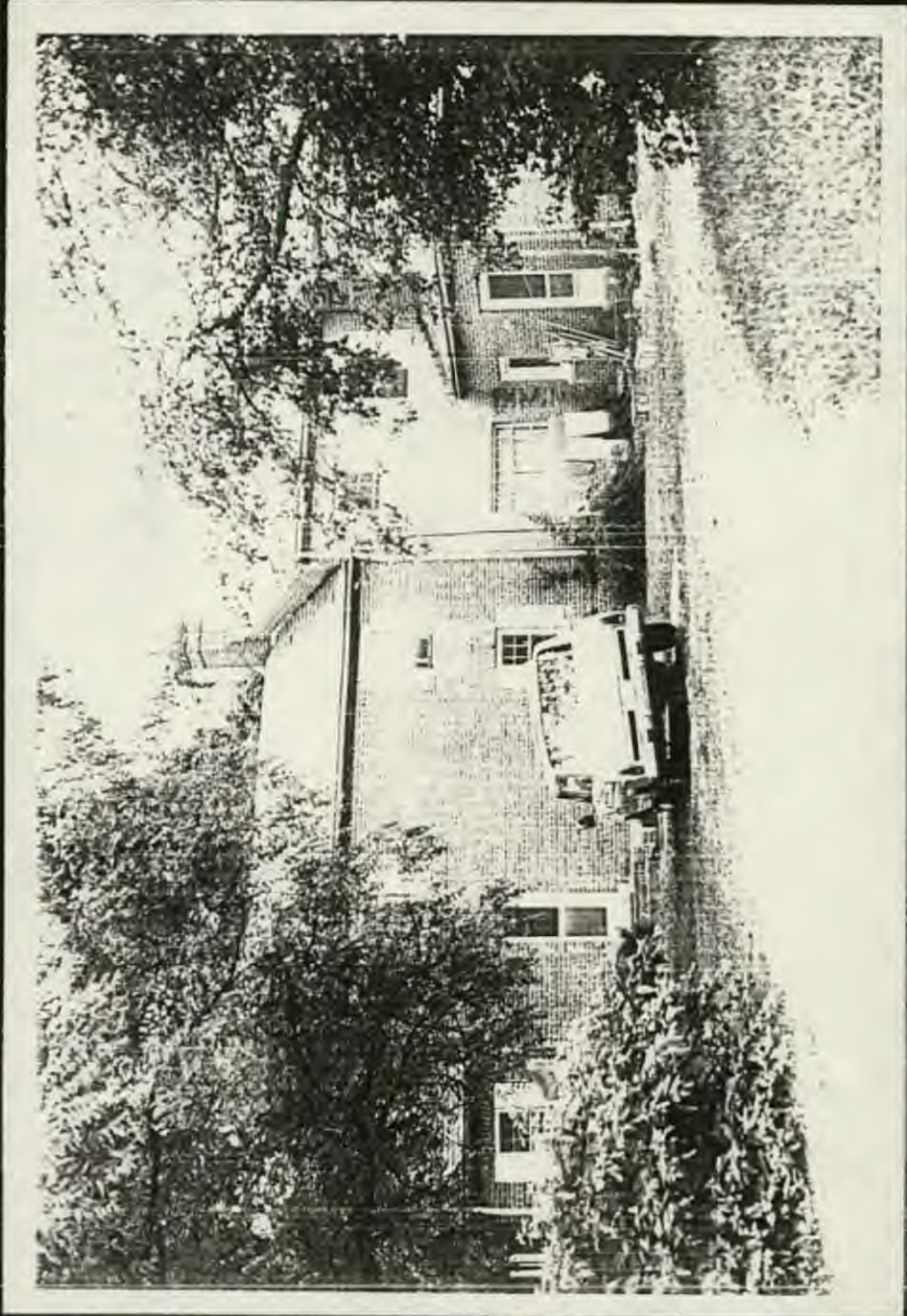
Maryland

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  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438





#23-62  
NAME BELMONT SITE - OLD BRICK SLAVE QUARTERS (CENTER)  
LOCATION Rt 97 BROOKVILLE, Md (TANTERRA SUBDIV.)  
FACADE W  
PHOTO TAKEN 8/15/75 MDWYER

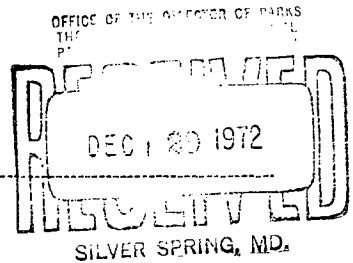
MEMORANDUM

December 26, 1972

To: Director of Parks

From: Myron Goldberg, Chief Park Planner *My*

Subject: "Howard Hall"



I have reviewed the material you sent me as I had previously done with Mike Dwyer and the owner of the property. I had previously indicated, and I still feel the same, that I could not recommend the acquisition of this property to our program.

We are currently receiving some 28+ acres in dedication in the vicinity of this property (Belmont Local Park). With this, we anticipate developing the park into a full scale local recreation center, adjacent to the 10 acre Greenwood Elementary School, which is contiguous to Howard Hall (see attached plat). I can not see why we would be interested in acquiring this house, with a cost of over \$200,000, almost adjacent to our dedicated property.

You questioned whether we would be interested in developing the house as a civic center. I was not aware that civic centers were normally a part of our park development program. On the other side of the house, the property is completely surrounded by new single family residential development. Therefore, there are no spacious grounds remaining that we could also consider acquiring over and above the 2 acres that surround the house.

I have talked previously with the owner and he may be interested in obtaining from us an easement through the property which we are receiving in dedication. This would be a 10 foot wide path utilizing the old driveway which originally led to the house. I told him we might be able to work out some arrangement after we have completed our development plan for our site.

MBG:sb

Attachment

THE MARYLAND - NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
REGIONAL AND METROPOLITAN DISTRICTS IN MONTGOMERY AND PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTIES, MARYLAND



Regional Headquarters Building  
8787 Georgia Avenue  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20907  
September 29, 1972

589-1480  
Area Code 301

Mr. Ralph B. Duane  
2519 Ennals Avenue  
Wheaton, Maryland 20902

Dear Mr. Duane:

Thank you for sending me the brochure on Howard Hall and also your kind invitation to visit it.

I certainly join with you in a desire that this beautiful house be maintained for the future but have no thoughts as to what institution could purchase it.

The Montgomery County Historical Society, of which I am President, has, of course, the lovely Beall-Dawson House in Rockville purchased jointly with the City of Rockville in 1962. I am sending on the brochure to the Societies library for reference.

With all best wishes.

Very truly yours,

Thomas M. Anderson, Jr.  
Commissioner

TMA,jr:lle

1. STATE <i>Maryland</i> COUNTY <i>Montgomery</i> TOWN <i>Brookville</i> VICINITY STREET NO.  ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <i>M 8</i>
	2. NAME <i>Harold Hall</i>  DATE OR PERIOD <i>1958</i> STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER
3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC *NO*

*Site is not old. - Not important } THERE IS ONE ON WING REMAINING ON N. SIDE*

*For an architectural survey. Only important for Mr. Farguhar's personal family history.*

*No photos taken - not important for the architectural survey.*

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE    *Endangered*                      *Interior*                      *Exterior*

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)	7. PHOTOGRAPH
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.	9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <i>PAB/BAW</i>  DATE OF RECORD <i>July 31 1968</i>

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

Belmont  
Olney VICINITY  
Maryland

HABS No. MD-579

HABS

M.D.

16. OLNEY.V

2-3



Historic American Buildings Survey  
John O. Brostrup, Photographer

October 20, 1936  
10:35 A. M.

ONE-HALF VIEW FROM EAST

687

33123 HOWARD HALL

Belmont  
Olney, Maryland  
VICINITY



Historic American Buildings Survey  
John O. Brostrup, Photographer

October 20, 1936  
10:20 A. M.

VIEW FROM SOUTHEAST (front)

HABS No. MD 579  
HABS  
MD.  
W. DIMERY  
2-1

23162 Belmont  
Olney, Maryland  
VICINITY

HABS No. MD-579

HABS

MD.

16. OLNEY, V

2-2



Historic American Buildings Survey  
John O. Brostrup, Photographer

October 20, 1936  
10:30 A. M.

ONE-HALF VIEW FROM THE EAST.



696

Belmont  
Olney, Maryland  
VICINITY



Historic American Buildings Survey  
John O. Brostrup, Photographer

October 20, 1936  
10:45 A. M.

VIEW OF BARN FROM SOUTH.

HABS No. HABS  
MD 579 M.D.

I. OLNEY, V.

579-2  
2-5

✓

691

Belmont  
Olney, Maryland  
VICINITY



Historic American Buildings Survey  
John O. Brostrup, Photographer

October 20, 1936  
10:50 A. M.

VIEW FROM THE SOUTHEAST (front)

HABS No. HABS  
MD-579 MD.

W. OLNEY, V.  
X-1  
2-4

Belmont  
Olney VICINITY  
Maryland

HABS No. MD-579  
HABS  
M.D.

16 OLNEY.V

2-3



Historic American Buildings Survey  
John O. Brostrup, Photographer

October 20, 1936  
10:35 A. M.

ONE-HALF VIEW FROM EAST

 <p><b>Real Property Information</b></p>	<p><b>Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation Real Property System</b></p>
---	--

[\[Go Back\]](#)

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

[\[Start Over\]](#)

**DISTRICT: 08 ACCT NO: 00764142**

**Owner Information**

**Owner Name:** KOLB, RICHARD H ET AL **Use:** RESIDENTIAL  
**Mailing Address:** 19019 GOLD MINE PL **Principal Residence:** YES  
 BROOKEVILLE MD 20833-2714

**Transferred**

**From:** RICHARD H & M G KOLB **Date:** 12/30/1996 **Price:** \$0

**Deed Reference:** 1) /14588/ 258 **Special Tax Recapture:**

2)

\* NONE \*

**Tax Exempt:** NO

**Location Information [View Map]**

**Premises Address:** 19019 GOLD MINE PL **Zoning:** R200  
 BROOKEVILLE 20833 **Legal Description:** BROOKEVILLE KNOLLS

<b>Map</b>	<b>Grid</b>	<b>Parcel</b>	<b>Subdiv</b>	<b>Sect</b>	<b>Block</b>	<b>Lot</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Plat No:</b>
HU51			15		Q	74	81	Plat Ref:

**Special Tax Areas**

**Town:**

**Ad Valorem:**

**Primary Structure Data**

<b>Year Built:</b>	<b>Enclosed Area:</b>	<b>Property Land Area:</b>	<b>County Use:</b>
1929	7,011 SF	96,203.00 SF	111

**Value Information**

	Base Value	Current Value	Phase-In Value		Phase-in Assessments	
			As Of	As Of	As Of	As Of
			01/01/1999	07/01/2000	07/01/1999	07/01/2000
<b>Land:</b>	105,600	105,600				
<b>Impts:</b>	418,870	428,730				
<b>Total:</b>	524,470	534,330		531,042	211,100	212,410
<b>Pref Land:</b>	0	0		0	0	0

**Partial Exempt Assessments**

	Code	07/01/1999	07/01/2000
<b>County</b>	000	0	0
<b>State</b>	000	0	0
<b>Municipal</b>	000	0	0

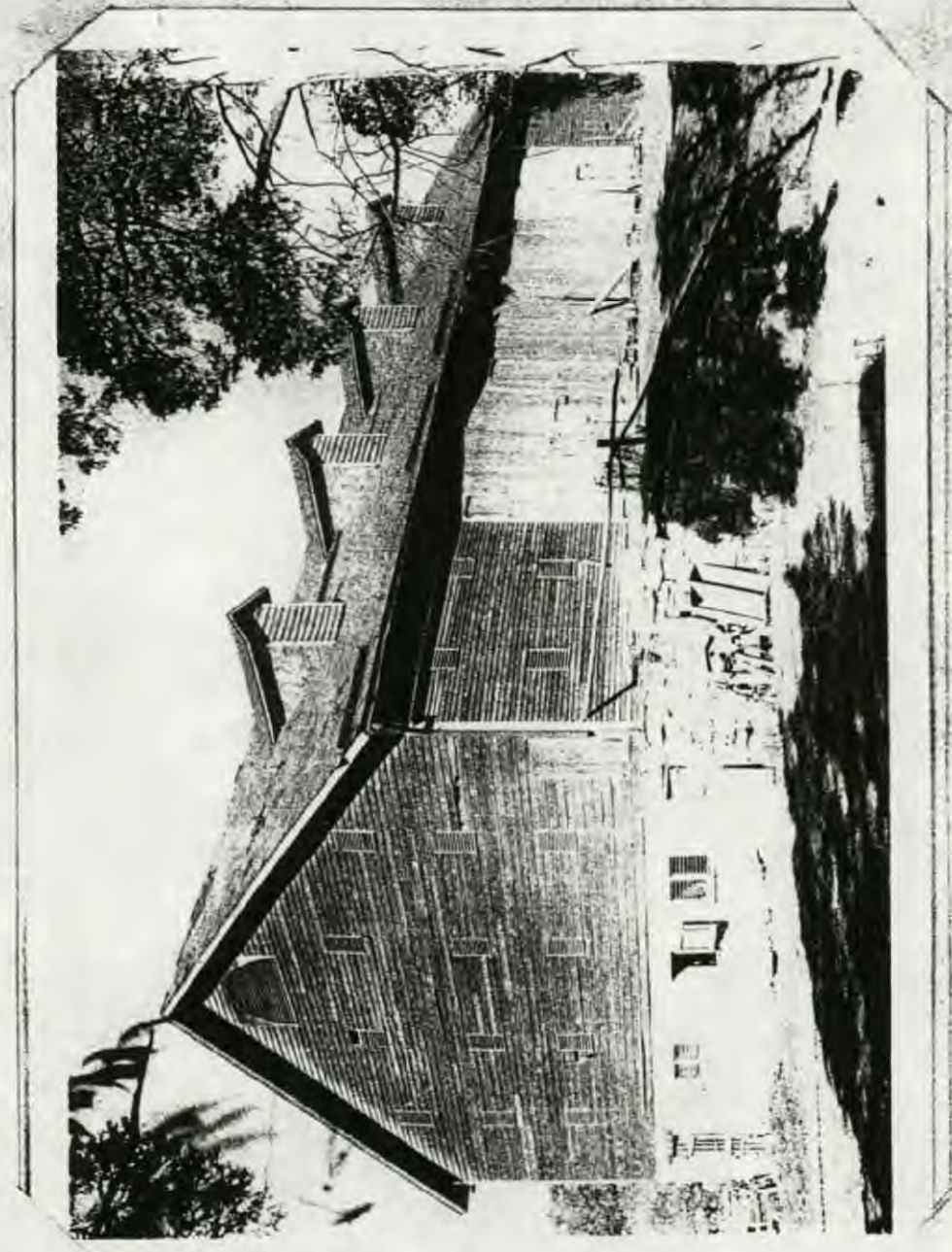
[\[Go Back\]](#)

[\[Start Over\]](#)

23/62 Belmont  
Olney, Maryland  
VICINITY

HABS No. HABS  
MD-579 MD.  
16-OLNEY.V  
2A-1  
2-4

91



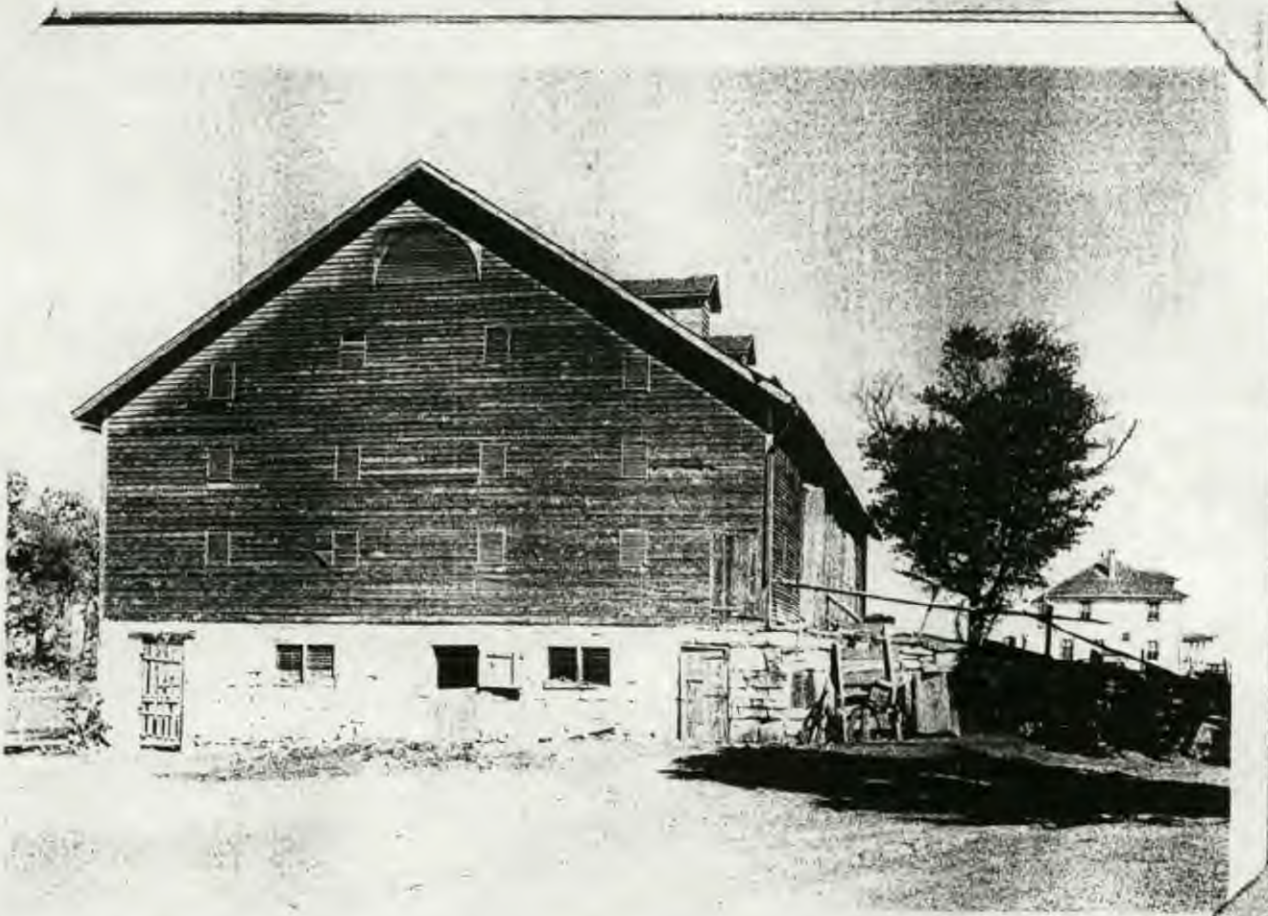
October 20, 1936  
10:50 A. M.

Historic American Buildings Survey  
John O. Brostrup, Photographer

VIEW FROM THE SOUTHEAST (front)

196

Belmont  
Olney, Maryland  
VICINITY



Historic American Buildings Survey  
John O. Brostrup, Photographer

October 20, 1936  
10:45 A. M.

VIEW OF BARN FROM SOUTH.

HABS No. 11  
MD-514 HABS  
M.D.

2-5  
2A-2

IL OLNEY V

23/62

Belmont  
Olney, Maryland  
vicinity

HABS No. MD-519

HABS

MD.

16-OLNEY.V

2-2



Historic American Buildings Survey  
John O. Brostrup, Photographer

October 20, 1936  
10:30 A. M.

ONE-HALF VIEW FROM THE EAST.

# EARLY MANOR AND PLANTATION HOUSES OF MARYLAND

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An Architectural and Historical Compendium, 1634-1800,  
with three hundred twenty photographs and one hundred  
forty-five plans, details and sketches ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

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By HENRY CHANDLEE FORMAN

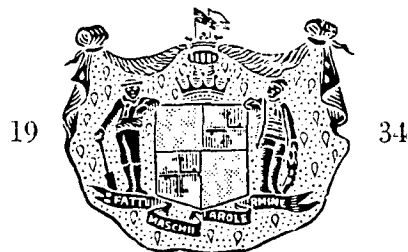
A.B., M.A.RCH., A.I.A.

*Registered Architect State of Pennsylvania; White Prizeman in Architecture, Princeton;  
Author of "The Turner Family of 'Hebron' and Betterton, Maryland"*

Introduction by LEICESTER B. HOLLAND

B.A.RCH., PH.D., F.A.I.A.

*Chief of the Division of Fine Arts, Library of Congress; Chairman of the Committee on the  
Preservation of Historic Buildings, American Institute of Architects; etc.*



---

*Privately printed for the Author*  
EASTON, MARYLAND  
HAVERFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

1934



5/28/97

RICHARD H. KOLB OWNS  
LOTS 74 + 29 - BELMONT SITE,  
AND LIVES THERE (19019  
GOLDMINE PLACE / 18900  
ALPENGLOW)  
② RALPH B. DUANE OWNS  
CEMETERY ON P728 AND HIS  
ADDRESS IS P.O. BOX 4324,  
SILVER SPRING



23-62

In Montgomery County is **BELMONT**, or THOMAS WATERS PLACE, which has a very long Civil War period wing at the rear. Here lived the Waters family.

SPRING VALLEY FARM in Frederick County has dressed stone on two sides, and rough stone on the others.



LAUNDRY HOUSE on the "Doughoregan Manor" has a window placed high up on each side of the front door. This house is in Howard County.

"Doughoregan Manor" was surveyed in 1707 for Charles Carroll Esq. It comprised ten thousand acres. The manor-house itself is nearly three hundred feet long.

# Howard Hall

*An Historic Estate*



Montgomery County  
Olney, Maryland



LOOKING OUT FRONT DOOR



VIEW INTO GRAND FOYER

Originally "Belmont"—built by William Waters in 1747 on an estate of approximately Eight Hundred acres with frontage on both sides of the main highway (now Md. Rt. 97—Georgia Avenue) stretching from Olney about one mile northward toward Brookville which he received from his father Samuel in 1737. William Waters married Mary Harris of Prince Georges County.

Ignatius Waters Sr. inherited the entire estate upon the death of his father William in 1788. Upon his death in 1842, the Waters estate was divided into several parcels with about Four Hundred acres and the brick manor house "Belmont" going to Basil Worthington Waters. Basil Worthington Waters married Margaret Dorsey Sollers of Frederick County. Upon his death in 1864 Belmont was left to his son Thomas Worthington Waters—then only fifteen years old. Thomas married Mary Emma Magruder who died in 1927, and following his death in 1929, the heirs sold the home and about Three Hundred acres to Captain Erik von der Heide, who had an illustrious ancestry in Germany, where his family line dates back to the tenth century.

The Belmont was at least partially demolished and the present twenty-four room brick mansion "Howard Hall" was designed and built around it by Captain Erik von der Heide. Much of the original building materials from the "Belmont" were used in the construction of Howard Hall—according to the sister in law of Erik von der Heide, Mrs. Amalia de M. Riggs, who resided at Howard Hall with the von der Heides there and managed a successful dairy farm operation—selling milk to

Thompson's dairy for many years. In the rear wall of the mansion some of the original bricks brought over from England in the 1700's can be observed. Also many beams which are used in the house are of the old hand hewn variety. Materials and appointments for the mansion were assembled from many places. Much of the fine woodwork and massive mantels came from South Carolina. The columns in front which are about three feet in diameter and over twenty feet tall were purchased at an auction in Ellicot City—their original place unknown. Leonard Boertlein, of Washington, D.C. (1892-1956), an artist in stained glass, was commissioned to create a magnificent window about eight feet by ten feet which contains several family crests and coats of arms. (This window broken and ruined was subsequently restored to original condition by his son John Boertlein, one of the

few remaining stain glass artists on the entire east coast, who had his fathers original templates for the window.) The marble and much of the stone used in patios and fireplaces came from Vermont, Virginia, and North Carolina. The floors in the main rooms downstairs as well as a magnificent curved stairway are made from solid walnut one inch thick and more—the floors being random width walnut plank put down with pegs. The mansion is about one hundred fifty feet long completely brick with a Vermont slate roof and copper guttering and contains about ten thousand square feet of living space in it. There is about four thousand square feet of Virginian stone patios—the main one being a curved front porch with curved portico columnar front.

As you enter the front door bordered by leaded glass windows you step into a marble foyer with a



FORMAL LIVING ROOM

small chandelier and two small columns inside. To the left is a mens one-half bath. To the right is a ladies dressing or powder room and off this room is a large ladies bath. From this foyer we proceed into the grand foyer (about twenty feet by twenty-two feet) and observe the beginning of the magnificent random width pegged solid walnut flooring. Directly ahead is a curved walnut stairway with several landings of huge proportion with a breathtaking Bohemian crystal chandelier of about four feet in diameter hanging from the second floor ceiling in the stairwell. To our left a nine foot curved archway almost two feet thick enters the formal living room which is about twenty-one feet by forty-five feet and has a deep fireplace at either end garnished by magnificent carved wood mantels and panelling. Two large crystal chandeliers hang in the room and are complemented by crystal wall sconces over each fireplace. At the West end of the living room are double french glass doors on either side of the fireplace exiting into a fifty-six foot stone patio! On the far side of the living room a French Breezeway room leads out to a fifteen by twenty foot summer room with seven arches leading to the outside! At the far end of the living room and also directly in back of the grand entry foyer are double glass doors entering a panelled den or "trophy" room (known as trophy room because eleven animal heads of various kinds which were killed on Safari trips to Africa and other wilds were hung there) which features a massive stone fireplace with huge stone mantel. It is here where we find the magnificent art glass stained window (on the West side of the house where the setting sun



MAIN FOYER CHANDELIER



TROPHY ROOM



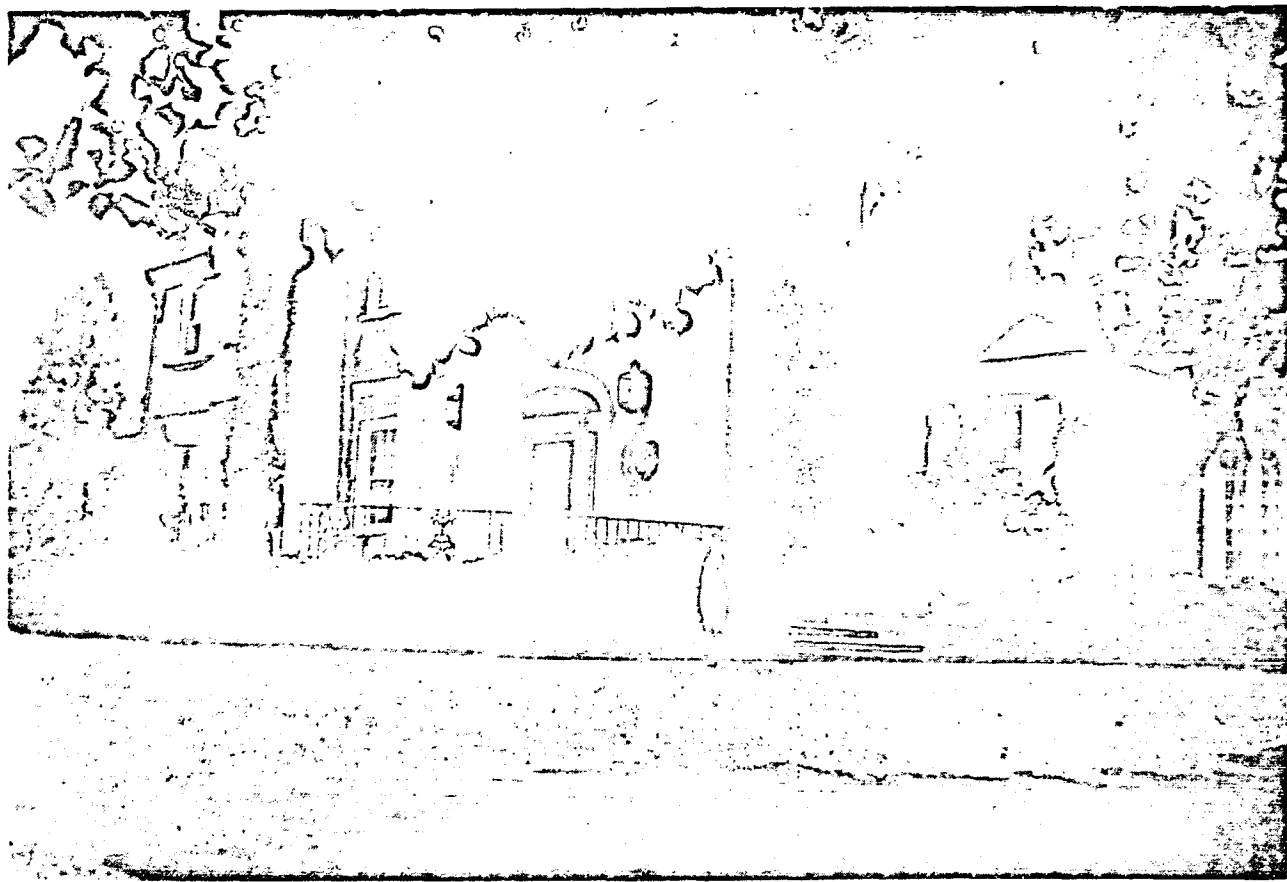
ELEGANT STAIRWAY



FORMAL DINING HALL

fires it with brilliant color) with beautiful panes of stained leaded glass containing colorful peacocks, attractive scenery and family crests. To the right of the entry foyer is a huge formal dining room sixteen feet by thirty-five feet featuring a magnificent Georgian Chandelier and matching wall sconces, a large fireplace at one end, bordered by rich panelling mirrored archways, and three arched doorways with double french doors leading into a twenty-seven foot stone patio. Behind the dining room is a long hall which has a breakfast room, pantry, kitchen, small study with fireplace, one-half bath and back stairway off it. There is a three car attached garage at this end of the house with a storage room above. The second floor contains five huge bedrooms, each with its own full bath and a walkout roof sundeck. There is a spacious partially furnished attic with many storage closets. The home has a partial basement plus a bomb shelter. The home has just been completely restored and redecorated including a new heating and plumbing system. The mansion is situated on over two and one-half acres and bordered in front by several gigantic trees including one of the largest and most symmetrical Beech trees in the state. There is frontage on two streets, Alpenglow Lane and Goldmine Place. The estate is bounded by a new contemporary home subdivision on two sides, a large wooded field adjacent to a school and a smaller mansion to one side, with enough ground and shrubbery to insure privacy. Howard Hall is located in Olney about twenty miles from downtown Washington (about forty-five to fifty minutes traveling time).

# Howard Hall



NO. 8 D-9 CAPT. ERIK VON DER HEIDE 1950 BRICK

THE estate which Ignatius Waters, Sr., inherited after the death of his father, William Waters, in 1788 was really a principality in value and extent, containing about 800 acres of some of the most productive land in the County. Located in a choice section twenty miles north of Washington, it included both sides of a main north-and-south highway, reaching from Olney for over a mile to Brookeville. On it William Waters built in 1747 a commodious brick manor house he named Belmont. Waters married Mary Harris of Prince George's County, and brought his bride to Belmont.

William Waters received the following grants from his father Samuel, parts of Charles and

Benjamin, containing 152 acres, in consideration of the sum of five shillings, and also—"for the love, good will and affection which I have and bear toward my beloved son William Waters." This deed is dated March 21, 1746/7.<sup>1</sup>

By another deed dated June 19, 1737, Samuel conveyed to William Waters 404 acres, part of Charles and Benjamin, for the sum of Sixty Pounds Sterling.<sup>2</sup>

When Ignatius, Sr., a son of William, died in 1842, one hundred years after the estate had come into the family, the acreage was divided into three valuable estates, and bequeathed to his three sons, with a few acres to the church at Olney. Belmont, with about 400 acres and the brick manor house, went to Basil Worthington Waters; the oldest son, Ignatius, Jr., received 204 acres named Oak Grove, on the east side of

<sup>1</sup> Liber B B Folio 159 Prince George's County Land Records.  
<sup>2</sup> Liber T Folio 170 Prince George's County Land Records.



the highway. There he built a handsome brick manor house in 1848. And about 150 acres, also on the east side of the road, opposite Belmont; went to Zacharia Waters, who built a frame house.

Basil Worthington Waters married Margaret Dorsey Sollers of Frederick County. Upon his death in 1864, Belmont was left to Thomas Worthington Waters, his son, then only fifteen years of age. One of the uncles managed that farm until young Thomas finished his schooling.

In later years, Thomas Waters always had beautiful riding horses. Some people alive today can recall seeing him on a handsome brown gaited horse, with a long flowing tail, riding up to Olney for the mail or galloping around the Fair Grounds at Rockville, with his marshal's sash around his shoulders.

Thomas Waters married Mary Emma Magruder who died in 1927; and following his death in 1929, the home which then contained 300 acres passed to his heirs, who sold it in 1938 to Captain Erik von der Heide. The old brick manor house was removed, and a twenty-four room brick mansion erected on the site.

There is a Waters family burial plot near the lawn, but the present owners do not seem to object to this ancient feature with a dozen or so marble markers. They attend it and keep the grass mowed as neatly as their own lawn.

The Waters family of Belmont were always regular and faithful members of St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church at Olney. The church was built on Belmont property in 1842. Ignatius Waters, Sr., had donated one acre of land for a cemetery.

As the church did not own the land on which the building stood, it was agreed that a rental of one cent per annum would be paid for the use of the land. This agreement was in force from 1842 to 1910, and it is understood that the Waters owners during that time promptly put the penny rental into the collection.

After 1910 a deed was executed by the Belmont family giving the land which had been rented to the church. Additional land was also donated to increase the size of the cemetery and churchyard, a few lots being reserved for the use of the Waters family. Some of the family held Sunday school and taught the scriptures to their slaves, of whom they had a few.

Two of the Waters family, the last to live in the old brick house, are living in 1961. They

are Basil Worthington, 87, who lives with his son and wife in a new brick house half mile east of Redland, on the Muncaster Road, and Margaret, who lives in Silver Spring near Four Corners.

The daughter, Margaret (Waters) Beall, in Silver Spring has some treasured possessions which came to her from her grandmother, Margaret (D. Sollers) Waters. A book of Common Prayer, printed in England in 1767, is twenty inches by ten inches by two inches thick and was usually carried to church on Sunday by a slave. Also, she has an illuminated-type Bible, printed in 1751, a spinnet made in Philadelphia in 1793, by "Charles James, Instrument Maker," and a grandfather's clock, said to have been made in England in 1732, which stood in Belmont from the time the house was built until 1938, when the house was torn down.

The present owner of the former farm of the Waters family is Mrs. Erik von der Heide, widow of the Captain, who had living with her in 1961, a sister, Mrs. Amalia de Murguiondo, nee Amalia de Murguiondo, and a brother, Jose de Murguiondo. Capt. von der Heide died in March 1959.

Capt. von der Heide had an illustrious ancestry in Germany, where his family line dates back to the 10th century, although his widow is proud to claim residence in America for 27 years.

The old brick slave quarters building has been modernized into a comfortable guesthouse.

This sumptuous manor house, may be judged by the beauty of the photograph here. It contains fourteen rooms in all, in its two stories, with an unfinished attic. There are five bed rooms on its second floor and five full baths, and five fireplaces throughout.

The spacious living room, or really a formal parlor, to the left of the entrance, is a delight, with symmetrical ends, filled by fireplaces with handsome mantels. It is furnished with splendid furniture, much of it antique, of European origin.

As one enters the east doorway, from the portico, upon which the fluted round columns are featured, there is a small vestibule, on the right off of which is an ante-room and powder room. Back of that is a small breakfast room. Moving straight ahead, from the front vestibule, one comes to the trophy room, upon the panelled

walls of which are ELEVEN (11) life size mounted heads of big game animals, many native to Africa, and some from Germany. Remarkable display.

On through this room, in which is a fireplace with rough stone mantel front, we emerge from the house onto a terrace covered with flag-

stone. The view from here toward the west is very rural, and restful.

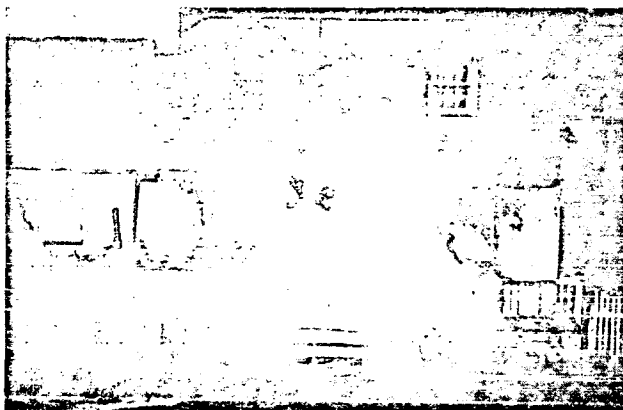
Through a passage, going to the right from hall is the kitchen and dining room, of moderate size, with bright light from windows toward the setting sun. Most of the floors are walnut highly polished.

## Hungerford Tavern

THE quaint old tavern which stood for nearly a century and a half on a quiet village street corner in the thriving town now known as Rockville has at last received the belated acclaim it so richly deserves in the archives of Montgomery County. On a bronze tablet placed on the site of this historical building, future generations will be sure to read of its glory. They will see, cast in metal, the names of those bold patriots whose acts have consecrated the humble walls and made the memory of the old tavern imperishable.

The sparks of rebellion against oppression and the aspirations for freedom and liberty kindled in the little tavern will always be a treasured memory to citizens of Maryland. The ringing words of the Governor of our beloved state while unveiling the tablet praised the marking of historical sites. He urged all citizens to cooperate with their governments, federal, state and local, and to "think and act as Marylanders." The action of early citizens of our free state in calling for cessation of trade with an aggressor was stressed by him as an example to be emulated.

Governor McKeldin warned that we must never let the fires of patriotism which activated our ancestors go out. He illustrated his admonition by a story of an old mountaineer in Tennessee who refused several times to sell his little log cabin in the valley to a public utility which tried to buy it so the valley could be flooded. The engineers, after his repeated refusals to sell, built for him a fine new stone house on a nearby hill and offered it to him as an even trade. The old man continued his refusal to move. He said "my grandfather built this cabin and he told my father never to let the fire in the hearth go out. My father told me the same thing and I have told my son to keep that



NO. 47 F-7 THOMAS OR JOSEPH WILSON  
CA. 1760 TO 1700

fire burning as long as he lives and to tell his son to do the same." Finally the engineers filled a bucket with coals from the humble hearth stone of the cabin and when a fire from them was moved to the new house the old man agreed to follow.

Judge Stedman Prescott, associate justice, Sixth Judicial Circuit, in outlining the history of the tavern to the large assemblage of citizens at the unveiling ceremonies said he knew no one who had definitely determined the date the tavern was built. He expressed the belief after his study of available records that it was built sometime between 1755 and 1771.

The most outstanding event memorialized by the plaque occurred on June 11, 1774.

The exact wording cast into the bronze is as follows:

"HUNGERFORD TAVERN SITE  
JUNE 11, 1774

On above date aroused patriots here resolved that every lawful means be used to procure relief from oppressions of the English Parliament, and that the most effectual way to secure American freedom would be to break off all commerce with Great Britain.

*How*

*An Historic Estate*



Montgomery County  
Olney, Maryland



LOOKING OUT FRONT DOOR



VIEW INTO GRAND FOYER

Originally "Belmont"—built by William Waters in 1747 on an estate of approximately Eight Hundred acres with frontage on both sides of the main highway (now Md. Rt. 97—Georgia Avenue) stretching from Olney about one mile northward toward Brookville which he received from his father Samuel in 1737. William Waters married Mary Harris of Prince Georges County.

Ignatius Waters Sr. inherited the entire estate upon the death of his father William in 1788. Upon his death in 1842, the Waters estate was divided into several parcels with about Four Hundred acres and the brick manor house "Belmont" going to Basil Worthington Waters. Basil Worthington Waters married Margaret Dorsey Sollers of Frederick County. Upon his death in 1864 Belmont was left to his son Thomas Worthington Waters—then only fifteen years old. Thomas married Mary Emma Magruder who died in 1927, and following his death in 1929, the heirs sold the home and about Three Hundred acres to Captain Erik von der Heide, who had an illustrious ancestry in Germany, where his family line dates back to the tenth century.

The Belmont was at least partially demolished and the present twenty-four room brick mansion "Howard Hall" was designed and built around it by Captain Erik von der Heide. Much of the original building materials from the "Belmont" were used in the construction of Howard Hall—according to the sister in law of Erik von der Heide, Mrs. Amalia de M. Riggs, who resided at Howard Hall with the von der Heides there and managed a successful dairy farm operation—selling milk to

Thompson's dairy for many years. In the rear wall of the mansion some of the original bricks brought over from England in the 1700's can be observed. Also many beams which are used in the house are of the old hand hewn variety. Materials and appointments for the mansion were assembled from many places. Much of the fine woodwork and massive mantels came from South Carolina. The columns in front which are about three feet in diameter and over twenty feet tall were purchased at an auction in Ellicot City—their original place unknown. Leonard Boertlein, of Washington, D.C. (1892-1956), an artist in stained glass, was commissioned to create a magnificent window about eight feet by ten feet which contains several family crests and coats of arms. (This window broken and ruined was subsequently restored to original condition by his son John Boertlein, one of the

few remaining stain glass artists on the entire east coast, who had his fathers original templates for the window.) The marble and much of the stone used in patios and fireplaces came from Vermont, Virginia, and North Carolina. The floors in the main rooms downstairs as well as a magnificent curved stairway are made from solid walnut one inch thick and more—the floors being random width walnut plank put down with pegs. The mansion is about one hundred fifty feet long completely brick with a Vermont slate roof and copper guttering and contains about ten thousand square feet of living space in it. There is about four thousand square feet of Virginian stone patios—the main one being a curved front porch with curved portico columnar front.

As you enter the front door bordered by leaded glass windows you step into a marble foyer with a

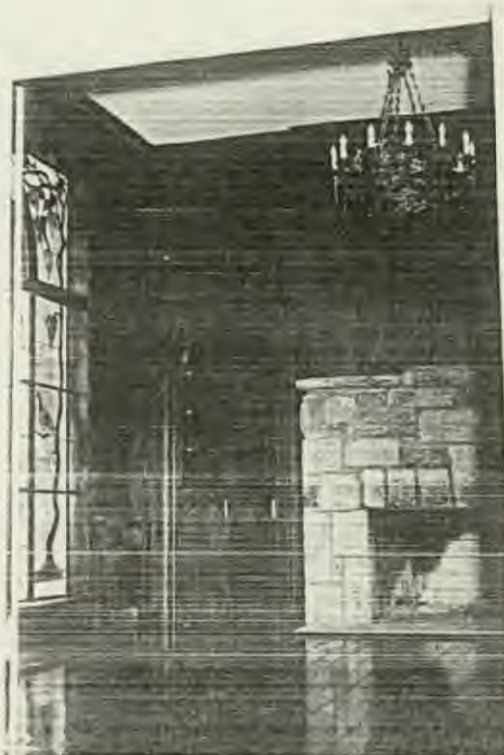


FORMAL LIVING ROOM

small chandelier and two small columns inside. To the left is a mens one-half bath. To the right is a ladies dressing or powder room and off this room is a large ladies bath. From this foyer we proceed into the grand foyer (about twenty feet by twenty-two feet) and observe the beginning of the magnificent random width pegged solid walnut flooring. Directly ahead is a curved walnut stairway with several landings of huge proportion with a breathtaking Bohemian crystal chandelier of about four feet in diameter hanging from the second floor ceiling in the stairwell. To our left a nine foot curved archway almost two feet thick enters the formal living room which is about twenty-one feet by forty-five feet and has a deep fireplace at either end garnished by magnificent carved wood mantels and panelling. Two large crystal chandeliers hang in the room and are complemented by crystal wall sconces over each fireplace. At the West end of the living room are double french glass doors on either side of the fireplace exiting into a fifty-six foot stone patio! On the far side of the living room a French Breezeway room leads out to a fifteen by twenty foot summer room with seven arches leading to the outside! At the far end of the living room and also directly in back of the grand entry foyer are double glass doors entering a panelled den or "trophy" room (known as trophy room because eleven animal heads of various kinds which were killed on Safari trips to Africa and other wilds were hung there) which features a massive stone fireplace with huge stone mantel. It is here where we find the magnificent art glass stained window (on the West side of the house where the setting sun



MAIN FOYER CHANDELIER



TROPHY ROOM

687

Belmont  
Olney, Maryland  
VICINITY  
HOWARD HILL



Historic American Buildings Survey  
John Q. Brostrup, Photographer

October 20, 1936  
10:20 A. M.

VIEW FROM SOUTHEAST (front)

HABS No. MD 579  
MD.  
OLNEY  
2-1

---

ORIGINAL 18TH C. HOUSE  
- Rematched -  
Country only

---



LOCATIONAL ATLAS HISTORICAL SURVEY OF 400 RESOURCES  
 SURVEY FORM  
 ROBINSON & ASSOCIATES, SUMMER 1989

PRINCIPAL BUILDING

OUTBUILDINGS:

YES  NO

HISTORIC NAME: Belmont Site and Cemetery

COMMON NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: Georgia Avenue (Rte. 97) (in "Tanterra" Subdivision)

SITE NUMBER: 23/62 ATLAS MAP: 9 ATLAS COORDINATES: H-18 TAX MAP: HU561

	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	FAIR	POOR	N/A	UNKNOWN
INTEGRITY*				X		
ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE					X	
ASSOCIATIVE HISTORY	X					

Resource is:  demolished  could not locate  
 threatened, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

ASSIGNED CATEGORY: I II III **IV** V VI  
 (See reverse side for explanation.)

NOTES: The alterations to this house have compromised its historic integrity. Although the original site and house had importance, little of what remains today reflects that importance. The slave quarters still exist as the far right two-story section of the adjacent house. We searched the property for a cemetery and found one area behind the Belmont house that contains a large shady tree. However, no markers were visible at this location.

\*Integrity is defined as the maintenance of original features and/or lack of substantial alteration to the resource.

CEMETERY: TAX # 1722325  
 PARCEL 720

HOUSE:  
 TAX # 764403 LOT 29  
 764142 LOT 74

Category Explanation:

**I. Outstanding resource architecturally and/or historically.** Most resources in Category I either maintain the highest level of integrity or are invaluable as ruinous evidence of former significant structures. Should be evaluated immediately for Master Plan designation.

**II. Very good resource architecturally and/or historically.** Most resources in Category II maintain their basic integrity. Should be evaluated promptly for Master Plan designation.

**III. Good resource architecturally and/or historically.** Some resources in Category III have a diminished level of integrity. Should be evaluated for Master Plan designation, but with lower priority.

**IV. Marginal resource.** Falls into one or more of the following categories: 1) severely deteriorated, 2) heavily altered, 3) architectural character not strong, 4) historical significance not apparent, 5) only typical of a large number of comparable resources. Lowest priority for evaluation for Master Plan designation.

**V. Resource which is either demolished or which could not be located based on information given on survey form.** Remove demolished structures from Locational Atlas and, if after further study the resources not located to date cannot be located, remove from Locational Atlas.

**VI. Resource was inaccessible at time of survey.**

INDIVIDUAL SITE PROFILE

Site Number 23/62

Address 19019 GOLD MINE PL. +  
18900 ALPENGLAW LN.  
BROOKVILLE MO. 20933

Site Name(s) BELMONT SITE + CEMETERY

SITE 164142 (HOUSE) + 164483 (VAC)

Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Tax Account Number CEMETERY 1722325

Address \_\_\_\_\_

M.P. Date ATLAS

Type of Resource(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Area of Environmental Setting \_\_\_\_\_

Condition of Structure(s): Good \_\_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Original Construction \_\_\_\_\_ Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Dates and Extent of Alterations \_\_\_\_\_

Present Use \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Notes HISTORIC SITE DEMO 1940S; MODERN HOUSE ON SITE SITE ON  
PTS 74 + 39 (19019 GOLD MINE PL + 18900 ALPENGLAW LN. RESPECTIVELY), CEMETERY  
ON PTS (GOLD MINE PL.) NOTE: ORIGINAL SLAVE QTRS STILL EXIST.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_

By ROBERTA F. SHULMAN

Call West

**A** grand and stately mansion is once again for sale.

Howard Hall, the Brookeville manor house whose predecessor was mature at our nation's birth, has survived its checkered past of glory, desecration and abandonment with its dignity intact.

Surrounded by 200-year-old linden trees and sobered by a family graveyard whose broken stones and fading dates attest to its history, the restored house has proudly weathered the ravages of time and neglect. It now sits as a glorious reminder of a bygone era.

All this grandeur — this 21-room house once nestled among 800 acres of the county's most productive farmland — this piece of Montgomery County history — can be had for but \$399,000, down from its original price of more than a half-million dollars.

The original house, called Belmont, was built by William Waters in 1747 on land straddling Georgia Avenue and stretching from Olney to Brookeville, according to historical accounts.

A hundred years later, the estate was divided between Waters' three grandsons, with Basil Worthington Waters inheriting Belmont's 400 acres and brick manor house. The rich farmland, probably tended by the Waters' family slaves, might have grown corn, tobacco or strawberries. Several acres of land were set aside to build St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church at Olney and the church cemetery.

The estate, consisting of the home on 300 acres and the slave quarters, remained in the Waters' family until nine years after the death of Thomas Waters, Basil's son, in 1929.

Captain Erik von der Heide, whose ancestry in Germany dates back to the 10th century, bought the estate. He either demolished or built around the existing house when he erected the 24-room brick mansion, called Howard Hall, using some of the original building materials.

The Captain spared no expense in constructing his English country mansion. Woodwork and mantels were crafted from South Carolina wood. Marble and stone for the extensive patios and numerous fireplaces were brought from Vermont, Virginia and North Carolina.

Room designations evoke another era. A morning room and conservatory suggest leisure and quiet contemplation. The rugged trophy room across the foyer is dominated by a stone fireplace and a stained glass window with family crests and coats of arms.

But the house was not long for glory. In the late '60s, the property was bought by developer Carl F. Fagan, who built the surrounding contemporary Tantara subdivision. The house fell into a state of disrepair until it was purchased by Ralph Duane, who went to work restoring and repairing it.

After a dozen years of extensive restoration, Duane was unable to keep the house. The current owners said they purchased the house and its accompanying 3 acres from the bank in 1984 for \$338,000.

The new purchasers, Christopher Reynolds III, heir to the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco fortune, and his uncle, Dr. Stewart Gordon, director of music at the

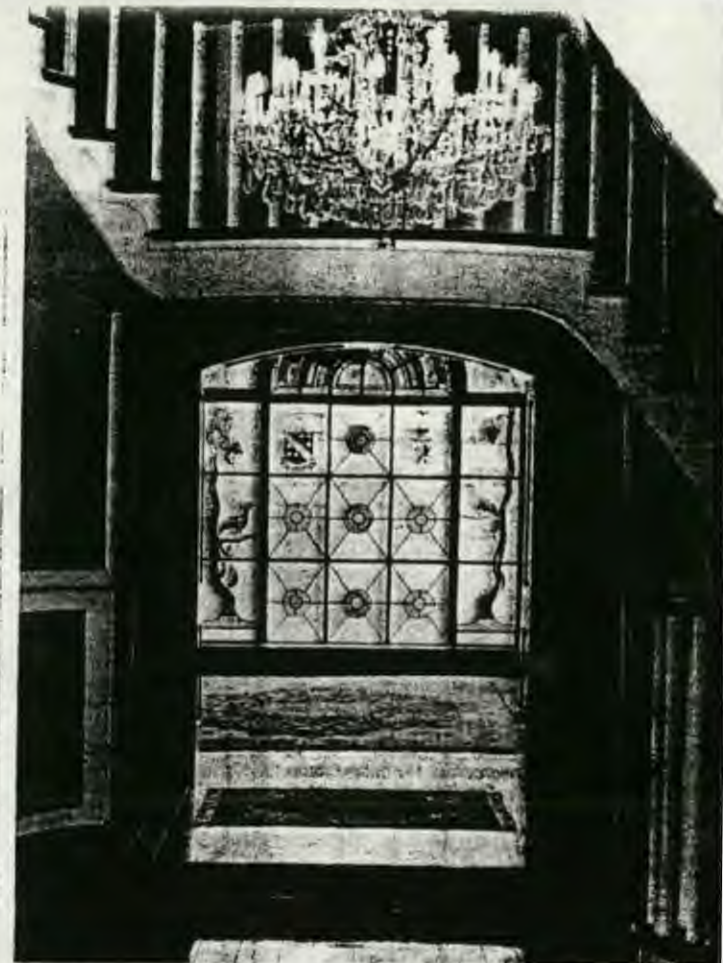
sions of restoring Howard Hall to its former grandeur.

In the spring, Gordon and Reynolds hosted the Franz Schubert Quartet, who performed at Georgetown University's Gaston Hall, and practiced on the terrace.

"This house was made for entertaining," said Reynolds. "We were going to turn this into a Maryland version of Dumbarton Oaks," he said, referring to the international cultural and learning center located in Georgetown.

But Reynolds and Gordon will be moving to Long Island, where Gordon has taken a position as executive assistant to the president of Queens College. "I care very much who I sell (Howard Hall) to," said Reynolds. "I want to see that it's preserved. I'd want to sell it to someone who's community minded."

SENTINEL AUG 15, 1985



The view from the front entrance is framed by the circular stairway, the Bohemian crystal chandelier and the 8-by-foot stained glass window of the trophy room. The window designed by D. C. artist Leonard Boertlein, was restored by son John Boertlein, using his father's original templates.

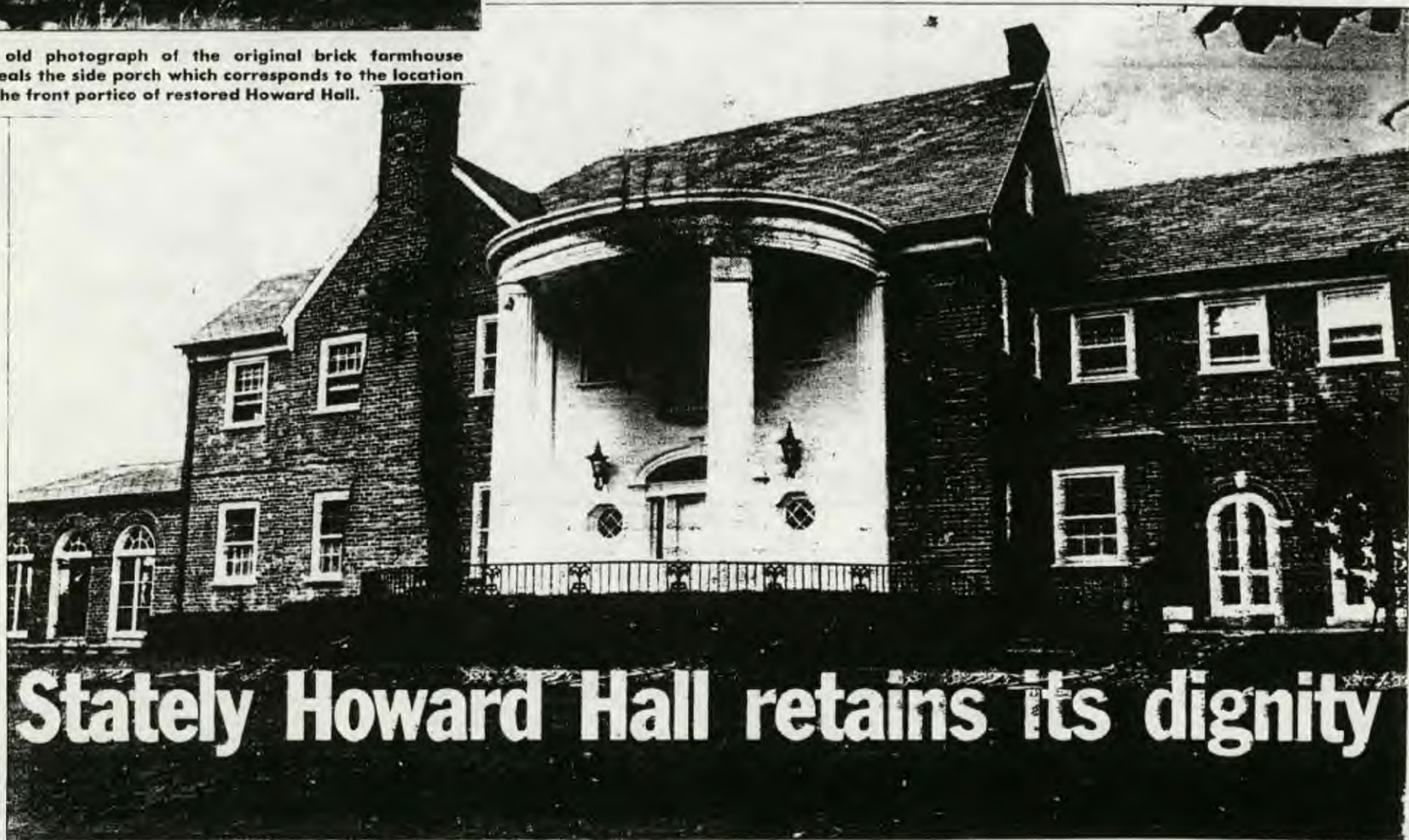
23-62



Howard Hall  
restored.

## Brookeville mansion for sale again

An old photograph of the original brick farmhouse reveals the side porch which corresponds to the location of the front portico of restored Howard Hall.



# Stately Howard Hall retains its dignity

Historic Montgomery

Belmont Was One of County's Outstanding Places Before It Was Razed A Decade Ago



THE OLD WATERS PLACE ON THE BROOKEVILLE PIKE, NORTH OF OLNEY.

By ROGER B. FARQUHAR, Sr.

The estate which Ignatius Waters, Sr., inherited after the death of his father William Waters, in 1788 was really a principality, in value and extent containing about 800 acres of the most productive land in the County. It was in a choice section twenty miles north of Washington, included both sides of a main north and south highway, reaching from Olney for over a mile to Brookeville, and contained a commodious brick manor house "Belmont," built by William Waters, in 1747.

William Waters married Mary Harris, of "Tudor Hall", St. Mary's County, and brought his bride to "Belmont".

When Ignatius, sr., a son of William, died in 1842, 109 years after the estate had come into the family, the acreage was divided up into three valuable estates, and bequeathed to his three sons, and a few acres to the church at Olney.

Belmont, with about 400 acres and the brick manor house went to Basil Worthington Waters, the oldest son. Ignatius, jr., received 204 acres on the east side of the highway named "Oak Grove", on which he built a handsome brick manor house in 1838. And about 150 acres, also on the east side of the road, opposite "Belmont" went to Zacharia Waters, upon which a frame house was built.

horse team can be turned around inside.

There is a Waters-family burial plot near the lawn, but the present owners do not seem to object to this ancient feature with a dozen or so marble markers. They attend it, and keep the grass mowed as neatly as their own lawn.

The Waters family of "Belmont" were always regular and faithful members of St. Johns Protestant Episcopal Church at Olney. The church was built on Belmont property in 1842. Ignatius Waters, sr., who died in that year had donated one acre of additional land for a cemetery.

As the church did not own the land on which the building stood, it was agreed that a rental of one cent per annum would be paid for

that time promptly put the penny rental, into the collection on Sundays.

After 1910 a deed was executed by the "Belmont" family giving the land which had been rented to the church, and some additional land was also donated to increase the size of the cemetery and church yard, a few lots being reserved for use of the Waters family. Some of the family held Sunday school, and taught the scriptures to their slaves, of which they had a few. The old brick "quarters" still stands.

One old slave woman named "Hager", was badly burned, while helping with the butchering, and died as a result. A year or so afterward one of the colored men who took over her work, is sure

pair of chains, and rattled them in front of the kitchen window.

It is recalled that "Hagar's" successor bounded out the kitchen door, hit the ground on the run, and did not stop until he was in Olney, a mile away.

It is claimed that the bricks came from England to construct the main part of the house. There is a rear extension like a "T", made of bricks from a pit on the farm. At the extreme rear of this extension was the large slave kitchen, which had a huge fireplace, with an iron crane in it. The main house was of simple center hall type, with large rooms and fireplaces in each, on first and second floors.

There are two sons of Thomas W. Waters living in the Olney neighborhood today, and one daughter in Washington. Numerous old documents in their possession, show that Belmont was located on part of a grant of "Brother's Content", made to William Waters, in May 1763, and on part of "Charles and Benjamin", granted to Charles Beall, in July 1716, which contained 2,280 acres.

The daughter, Margaret (Waters) Beall, in Washington, has some treasured possessions, which came to her from her grandmother, Margaret (D. Sollers) Waters. A book of Common Prayer, printed in England, 1767, is 20 inches by 10 inches by 2 inches thick and was usually carried to church on Sunday, by a slave (or other attendant). Also she has an illuminated type Bible, printed in 1751, a spinnet made in Philadelphia in 1793, by "Charles James" and a grand Maloney's, Inc. 1732, which is \$6 Georgia ave.

he built a handsome brick manor house in 1838. And about 150 acres, also on the east side of the road, opposite "Belmont" went to Zacharia Waters, upon which a frame house was built.

Basil Worthington Waters married Margaret Dorsey Sollers of Southern Maryland. Upon his death in 1864, "Belmont" was left to Thomas Worthington Waters, his son, then only 15 years of age. One of the uncles managed that farm, until young Thomas finished his schooling.

There is a story about young Thomas Waters which indicates that his uncles did not have to manage his farm for very long. During the Civil War, when he was about 15 years old, the soldiers were making one of their raids, and carried off all the horses they could lay hands on. They made off with "Fancy", a much-beloved little mare belonging to Thomas.

He had taught "Fancy", when he put his hand on her back behind the saddle, and told her to "Get Set! Take Aim! Fire!" to let go with both heels, and kick to the rafters, or higher. When he missed her from the barn, he went straight to the encampment.

He found the guilty cavalryman, told him the mare belonged to him and that he wanted her back. The soldier replied, "How do I know that she belongs to you? Can you prove it?" "Yes I can prove it," replied Thomas. So he went to "Fancy", repeated his order to her, "Get Set! Take aim! Fire-" and as he put his hands on her back, she let loose such a volley of flying hoofs that the cavalryman threw up his hands in horror and yelled, "Take her away, I don't want her."

In later years, Thomas Waters always had beautiful riding horses. Some of us can recall seeing him on a handsome brown gaited horse, with a long, flowing tail, riding up to Olney for the mail. Or galloping around the Fair Grounds at Rockville, with his Marshall's sash around his shoulders.

Thomas Waters married Mary Emma Magruder who died in 1927, and following his death in 1929, the home which then contained 300 acres, was sold in 1938 by his heirs, to Captain Erik von der Heide, the present owner. The old brick manor house was removed, and a 24-room brick mansion erected on the site.

In the years following the Civil War "Belmont" was noted for raising some of the heaviest crops in the area. The first reaper, invented by Cyrus McCormick in 1831, was tested there. One of the largest barns in the County, about 100 years old, is still standing on the place and it is claimed that a six-

one acre of additional land for a cemetery.

As the church did not own the land on which the building stood, it was agreed that a rental of one cent per annum would be paid for the use of the land. This agreement was in force and effect from 1842 to 1910, and it is understood that the Waters owners, during

One old slave woman named "Hager", was badly burned, while helping with the butchering, and died as a result. A year or so afterward one of the colored men who took over her work, is sure that her ghost came back to haunt him. While he was working in the kitchen, some pranksters went to the second floor and let down a

#23-  
62

## Mansion

Continued From Page B-1

stolen from closets and other obscure areas to patch the floors. New paneling had to be custom milled to match some of the old.

One of Duane's major coups concerned the stained-glass window off the center hallway. Like all the other glass in the house, it was smashed beyond repair. He was able to save a couple of panes that embodied coats-of-arms and which he held together through the deft use of leading.

IN HIS SEARCH for a stained-glass artisan who could create another window like it, Duane stumbled upon John Boertlein, whose father had crafted the original window and who still had the templates that were used for that job. The result is a faithful reproduction of the original.

The work at Howard Hall is nearly finished now. There are still some details, some of which Duane probably will leave until a buyer comes along and can voice his preferences. But the effect of the restoration is that of a warm, friendly place, despite its size (150 feet long, with 24 rooms, most of them spacious). It has fireplaces in nearly every room, crystal chandeliers and wall sconces, double French doors and about 4,000 feet of patios.

Duane is about to put the place up for sale at a price of around \$230,000. But he's going to hate to part with it.

"I've put a lot of time into this project," he said, "but I've enjoyed every minute of it."

Montgomery  
2/17/82  
5862  
Staff Help "Belmont"  
Needed for Site ("Howard Hall")  
Designer House

A designer showcase of model rooms decorated by professional designers is looking for staff volunteers to meet visitors and answer questions about the great variety of colorful and sometimes unusual furnishings.

The designer showhouse jointly sponsored by the American Cancer Society and the American Society of Interior Designers, will be held at Howard Hall, a newly restored historic mansion located just north of Olney in Brookeville. The address is 18900 Alpenglow Lane, one block off Georgia Ave.

Volunteers are needed for the show Monday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Sundays 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.; and Thursday evenings 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

To arrange to work one or more shifts, call staffing chairman Judith Howell at 929-1054. All proceeds will support Montgomery County Cancer Society research and educational programs, as well as provide direct financial assistance, dressings and hospital room supplies to local cancer patients.





↑ N

23/62\*  
BELMONT  
SITE

Cemetery

GREENWOOD  
ELEM. SCHOOL

BM 511  
462.90

131

HERITAGE

GOLD MINE CT.

HILLS

514 HOLLOW TER

ALPENGLOW

GEORGIA AVENUE

DRIVE

Parking

Play

Area

Pool

Pool

97

477

503

491

490.55

494

493

494

508

475

482

462.00

508

500

517

500

CIRCLE

Belmont/Howard Hall

23/02

Demolished → cemetery stands

→ 19019 Gold Mine Pl. deed. # 14588/258

Richard H. Kolb et al. date 12/30/96

19019 Gold Mine Pl. transferred from:

Brookville, MD 20833 Richard H + MG Kolb

→ 18900 Alpen glow Ln. ↗ refer back to ↗

WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1972

**LABOR OF LOVE**

**A Mansion Is Saved**

By **NORMAN KAHL**  
Star-News Staff Writer

It is a painful thing for Ralph W. Duane to watch a perfectly good house abandoned to vandals and the elements until it is beyond hope.

Over the past years, Duane, who is president of Duane Real Estate, Inc., in Wheaton, Md., has frequently come to the rescue. The houses he has saved from decay have been mostly modest affairs, basically sound, but in need of extensive remodeling.

Sometimes he's made a little on them, sometimes he's lost a little. So it's not a matter of profit. He just can't stand to see a perfectly good house rot to the ground.

That's how he got mixed up with Howard Hall, a stately home a mile above Olney, Md., off Georgia Avenue. Howard Hall is no humble miller's cottage. It's a pretentious mansion, once the seat of an estate that took in hundreds of acres. Threatened with possible demolition, it represented a challenge to Duane — but of a magnitude he had never encountered before.

SO FOR THE PAST seven months, he's devoted nearly his entire time to restoring the place, leaving his real estate business in the hands of competent associates. He's prowled among obscure shops, looking for the right artifacts to embellish the house. He has scoured the area for workmen capable of doing the job right. And he has even spent many hours in work clothes, digging in himself.

Howard Hall traces its ancestry back to 1747, when its antecedent was erected by William Waters on about 800 acres left to him by his father. Over the years, the land was parceled out, but the manor house with about 300 acres remained in the Waters family until 1929, when the place was sold to Capt. Erik von der Heide.

What happened then is not altogether clear. So far as Duane can figure out, the old place was either replaced with a new one or was extensively renovated. From the materials he found — random-width walnut flooring and paneling, ancient bricks, some huge hand-hewn beams — he's



Framed by stately trees, Howard Hall near Olney, Md., is once more a showplace.

deduced that van der Heide, in the 1930s, probably saved whatever he could and built onto it.

When Duane found the place last year, it was well on its way to oblivion. Although the house was still structurally sound, the interior was a shambles. The land had been bought by a developer who was putting up contemporary-type houses that enveloped the mansion, and the future of the big house was obscure.

DUANE MANAGED to buy the place, along with a surrounding tract of 2½ acres. He'd have liked more, but that was all that was available. Then he went to work.

He was lucky. He has in his employe an Argentinian, Ricardo Morillas, a man of many talents, who has been able to make all sorts of improbable restorations.

"Without him, the whole project would have been impossible," Duane concedes.

Altogether, some 30 people have worked on the job in various capacities. There was heating and electrical work. The floors had to be thoroughly sanded and, here and there, bits of the walnut had to be

See MANSION on Page B-5



The stained-glass window in the center hallway was recreated by the son of the man who crafted the original.

**Mansion**

Continued From Page B-1

stolen from closets and other obscure areas to patch the floors. New paneling had to be custom milled to match some of the old.

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"I've put a lot of time into this project," he said, "but I've enjoyed every minute of it."

23-68  
23-124

23-62  
23-67



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
8787 Georgia Avenue • Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
C. [unclear]  
[unclear]  
[unclear]

December 6, 1995

Rita Suffness  
Maryland State Highway Administration  
P.O. Box 717  
Baltimore, MD 21203-0717

Dear Rita:

At your request, we have reviewed the MHT Inventory Forms for resource #23/68, the Thomas P. Riggs House, and #23/124, the Thomas Benson House. We have also made site visits to each of these properties.

The Thomas P. Riggs House, #23/68, is an interesting site - portions of it appear to be early 19th century and it is associated with the prominent Riggs family. However, there have been numerous alterations to the structure including a relatively recent one-story addition that wraps the house. These alterations and additions have seriously impaired the architectural integrity of the resource. For this reason, it is our staff's judgement that the Thomas P. Riggs House would **not** be eligible for the National Register.

The Thomas Benson House, #23/124, is relatively intact except for the asbestos shingle siding and the some of the rear additions. The house form is somewhat unusual for the Brookeville area and jerkin head gable ends are not extremely common in this part of the County. Based on the available information, it is difficult to determine if the resource has important historical associations - little information on Thomas Benson is included on the MHT Inventory Form. We can concur that the property is **not** eligible for the National Register, but may want to consider the resource for designation on the County's Master Plan for Historic Preservation.

I also understand that your office has noted resources #23/62, Belmont, and #23/67, Pleasant Hill, as being demolished. In both cases, the primary structures on these two sites were demolished many years ago - long before the resources were included in the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites. Belmont was included in the County inventory because of the existence of a two-story structure that may have been a slave quarters and a family cemetery. Pleasant Hill was included because of the existence of building ruins and a family cemetery. As part of a recent approved subdivision, these ruins and cemetery on the Pleasant Hill site have specifically been protected and will have interpretive markers. In all likelihood, neither resource is eligible for the National Register.

The Montgomery County  
Real Estate  
**REPORT**



**Stately Howard Hall retains its dignity**

Staff photo by Janet Weiner

**Brookeville mansion for sale again**

By **ROBERTA F. SHULMAN**  
*Staff Writer*

**A** grand and stately mansion is once again for sale.

Howard Hall, the Brookeville manor house whose predecessor was mature at our nation's birth, has survived its checkered past of glory, desecration and abandonment with its dignity intact.

Surrounded by 200-year-old linden trees and sobered by a family graveyard whose broken stones and fading dates attest to its history, the restored house has proudly weathered the ravages of time and neglect. It now sits as a

glorious reminder of a bygone era.

All this grandeur — this 21-room house once nestled among 800 acres of the county's most productive farmland — this piece of Montgomery County history — can be had for but \$399,000, down from its original price of more than a half-million dollars.

The original house, called Belmont, was built by William Waters in 1747 on land straddling Georgia Avenue and stretching from Olney to Brookeville, according to historical accounts.

A hundred years later, the estate was divided between Waters' three grandsons, with Basil Worthington Waters inheriting Belmont's 400 acres

and brick manor house. The rich farmland, probably tended by the Waters' family slaves, might have grown corn, tobacco or strawberries. Several acres of land were set aside to build St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church at Olney and the church cemetery.

The estate, consisting of the home on 300 acres and the slave quarters, remained in the Waters' family until nine years after the death of Thomas Waters, Basil's son, in 1929.

Captain Erik von der Heide, whose ancestry in Germany dates back to the 10th century, bought the estate. He either demolished or built around the existing house

when he erected the 24-room brick mansion, called Howard Hall, using some of the

original building materials.

The Captain spared no expense in constructing his En See MANSION, page 28



An old photograph of the original brick farmhouse reveals the side porch which corresponds to the location of the front portico of restored Howard Hall.

# Mansion for sale again



A second floor landing is illuminated by natural light through the 14-inch thick walls. Staff photo by Janet Worme

From page 25

glish country mansion. Woodwork and mantels were crafted from South Carolina wood. Marble and stone for the extensive patios and numerous fireplaces were brought from Vermont, Virginia and North Carolina.

Room designations evoke another era. A morning room and conservatory suggest leisure and quiet contemplation. The rugged trophy room across the foyer is dominated by a stone fireplace and a stained glass window with family crests and coats of arms.

But the house was not long for glory. In the late '60s, the property was bought by developer Carl Freeman, who built the surrounding contemporary Tanterra subdivision. The house fell into a state of disrepair until it was purchased by Ralph Duane, who went to work restoring and repairing it.

After a dozen years of extensive restoration, Duane was unable to keep the house. The current owners said they purchased the house and its accompanying 3 acres from the bank in 1984 for \$338,000.

The new purchasers, J. Christopher Reynolds III, heir to the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco fortune, and his uncle, Dr. Stewart Gordon, director of music at the University of Maryland, had visions of restoring Howard Hall to its former grandeur.

In the spring, Gordon and Reynolds hosted the Franz Schubert Quartet, who performed at Georgetown University's Gaston Hall, and practiced



The view from the front entrance is framed by the circular stairway, the Bohemian crystal chandelier and the 8- by 10-foot stained glass window of the trophy room. The window, designed by D. C. artist Leonard Boertlein, was restored by his son John Boertlein, using his father's original templates. Staff photo by Janet Worme

on the terrace.

"This house was made for entertaining," said Reynolds. "We were going to turn this into a Maryland version of Dumbarton Oaks," he said, referring to the international cultural and learning center located in Georgetown.

But Reynolds and Gordon

will be moving to Long Island, where Gordon has taken a position as executive assistant to the president of Queens College. "I care very much who I sell (Howard Hall) to," said Reynolds. "I want to see that it's preserved. I'd want to sell it to someone who's community minded."

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# Women's News



## Mansion in Brookeville is design showcase

"Interiors 82," featuring a design showhouse, "Howard Hall," in Brookeville, is being shown through May 16 to benefit the Montgomery County Unit of the American Cancer Society.

Presented for a second year by the Potomac Chapter of The American Society of Interior Designers, the stately mansion is being shown by members of the society as well as volunteer individuals and members of several area organizations.

Professional interior designers have decorated 24 rooms that have been open to the public since Apr. 17. Owned by Ralph Duane, the historical Howard Hall is available for purchase for \$400,000.

The Howard Hall mansion's predecessor, Belmont, built in 1747 by William Waters, was the seat of an estate rivaling a principality in value and extent with some 800 acres of the most productive land in Montgomery County.

The house remained in the Waters family until 1938, when it was sold, with about 300 acres, to Captain Erik von der Heide, a German aristocrat.

Under von der Heide, Howard Hall was born. It is not clear if Belmont was completely demolished or extensively renovated. Some original building materials from Belmont were used in the construction of Howard Hall, according to the von der Heide family. Probably the captain saved what he could and built onto it. The house contains many handhewn beams and the rear wall includes 18th century bricks imported from England.

No expense was spared in building the sumptuous 24-room mansion, and many native American materials were used in its construction. Much of the woodwork and the massive mantels came from South

Carolina; the marble and much of the stone used in the patios and fireplaces came from Vermont, Virginia, and North Carolina.

The 20-foot fluted portico columns were purchased at an auction in Ellicott City; the roof is Vermont slate. The downstairs floors and curved staircase are inch-thick pegged walnut. Leonard Boertline, a Washington, D.C. stained glass artisan, was commissioned to create an 8-foot-by-10-foot stained glass window with family crests and coats of arms.

The house features Bohemian and Georgian crystal chandeliers and wall sconces, fireplaces in nearly every room, double French doors, nearly 4,000 square feet of stone patios, and many other custom appointments. In Captain von der Heide's day, the home was filled with priceless European antiques and a trophy room which displayed 11 life-size mounted heads of African big game animals.

Ten years ago, Ralph Duane, the present owner, found the house well on its way to oblivion. Although still structurally sound, the interior was a shambles. The land had been bought by a developer who was putting up contemporary houses that enveloped the mansion, and the future of the big house was obscure.

Duane bought the place along with a surrounding tract of 2 1/2 acres, and went to work restoring it. Renovations and repairs included heating and electrical work; sanding and patching the floors; and new paneling custom milled to match some of the old.

One of Duane's major coups concerned the stained glass window. Like all the other glass in the house, it was smashed beyond repair. He was able to save a couple of panes that embodied coats of arms and which he held

together through the deft use of lead.

In his search for a stained glass artisan who could create another window like it, Duane stumbled upon John Boertline whose father had crafted the original window and who still had the templates that were used for that job. The result is a faithful reproduction of the original.

The show house will be open to the public through May 16 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday; Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m.; and Sundays from noon to 6 p.m. Advance, senior citizen, and group tickets are \$5 per person. Tickets may also be purchased at the door for \$6 per person.

The basement of the building houses several boutique shops. There is also a tea room featuring soup, salad, muffins, drinks, and dessert.

Among local organizations that are serving as hostesses and hosts are the following:

Altrusa, Gaithersburg Branch of American Association of University Women; Preceptor Eta Chapter and Xi Rho Chapters of Beta Sigma Phi; B'nai B'rith Women of Potomac; Flower Valley Bible Study Group; Flower Valley Garden Club; Suburban Women's Club.

Also, Montgomery Chapter of Jack and Jill; Modelling Moppetts; Potomac Home and Garden Club; Rock Creek Republican Women's Club; Rockville Republican Women; Rossmore Woman's Club; Soroptimist Club of Upper Montgomery County; Wednesday Club of Sandy Spring; Women of St. John's Episcopal Church, Olney; Women's Clubs of Kensington, Potomac, and Rockville; and Young Women's Club of Gaithersburg.

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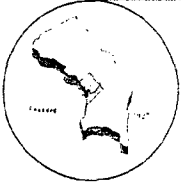
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Area Code 301

December 19, 1972

MEMORANDUM

TO: F. Frank Rubini, Director of Parks  
FROM: Mike Dwyer, Park Historian *M.F.D.*  
SUBJECT: "Howard Hall" at Olney as potential park property.

Back in September you asked me to check out a request by Mr. Duane, owner of "Howard Hall", (see enclosed) that we consider the purchase of the house. At the time, I met with Mr. Duane and concluded that the house is not of historic value; it is a new house on an old site. I also spoke to Myron Goldberg at Parkland Acquisition, and he did not feel we could use the building. He mentioned park acreage nearby that we had received through dedication. This latter property, (Belmont Local Park in C.I.P. book) an elementary school, and "Howard Hall" are contiguous.

I was reminded of the property recently when several Olney Citizens asked me about a civic center for their neighborhood. I just thought you would like to be aware of the request. "Howard Hall" is quite equal to the Rockville Civic Center in size, but is perhaps poorly situated. The price tag is reportedly around \$230,000 with only two acres of ground available.

MFD:cag



942-6300

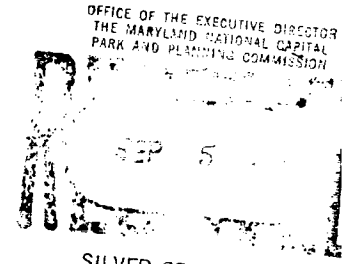


*File  
Mym*



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SILVER SPRING, MD.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1972

JACK HEWITT, DIRECTOR  
MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK  
AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
8787 GEORGIA AVENUE  
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND

DEAR MR. HEWITT,

PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED A BROCHURE ON "HOWARD HALL", THE HISTORICAL MANSION WHICH WE WOULD LIKE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLIC USE.

THE AESTHETIC VALUE AND HERITAGE OF A PROPERTY SUCH AS THIS SHOULD BELONG TO ALL THE CITIZENS OF MARYLAND.

THE PROPERTY WOULD BE PARTICULARLY SUITABLE FOR A "CIVIC CENTER", A FACILITY WHICH IS LACKING IN THE AREA AT THIS TIME.

MAY I PLEASE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF SHOWING THIS PROPERTY TO YOU OR YOUR REAL ESTATE REPRESENTATIVE IN THE NEAR FUTURE, FOR CONSIDERATION OF A PARK FACILITY?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

*Ralph B. Duane*

RALPH B. DUANE

PHOTO BY 1, 1972  
# 23-62

LABOR OF LOVE

# A Mansion Is Saved

By **NORMAN KAHL**

Star-News Staff Writer

It is a painful thing for Ralph W. Duane to watch a perfectly good house abandoned to vandals and the elements until it is beyond hope.

Over the past years, Duane, who is president of Duane Real Estate, Inc., in Wheaton, Md., has frequently come to the rescue. The houses he has saved from decay have been mostly modest affairs, basically sound, but in need of extensive remodeling.

Sometimes he's made a little on them, sometimes he's lost a little. So it's not a matter of profit. He just can't stand to see a perfectly good house rot to the ground.

That's how he got mixed up with Howard Hall, a stately home a mile above Olney, Md., off Georgia Avenue. Howard Hall is no humble miller's cottage. It's a pretentious mansion, once the seat of an estate that took in hundreds of acres. Threatened with possible demolition, it represented a challenge to Duane — but of a magnitude he had never encountered before.

SO FOR THE PAST seven months, he's devoted nearly his entire time to restoring the place, leaving his real estate business in the hands of competent associates. He's prowled among obscure shops, looking for the right artifacts to embellish the house. He has scoured the area for workmen capable of doing the job right. And he has even spent many hours in work clothes, digging in himself.

Howard Hall traces its ancestry back to 1747, when its antecedent was erected by William Waters on about 300 acres left to him by his father. Over the years, the land was parceled out, but the manor house with about 300 acres remained in the Waters family until 1929, when the place was sold to Capt. Erik von der Heide.

What happened then is not altogether clear. So far as Duane can figure out, the old place was either replaced with a new one or was extensively renovated. From the materials he found — random, with-



Framed by stately trees, Howard Hall near Olney, Md., is once more a showplace.

deduced that van der Heide, in the 1930s, probably saved whatever he could and built onto it.

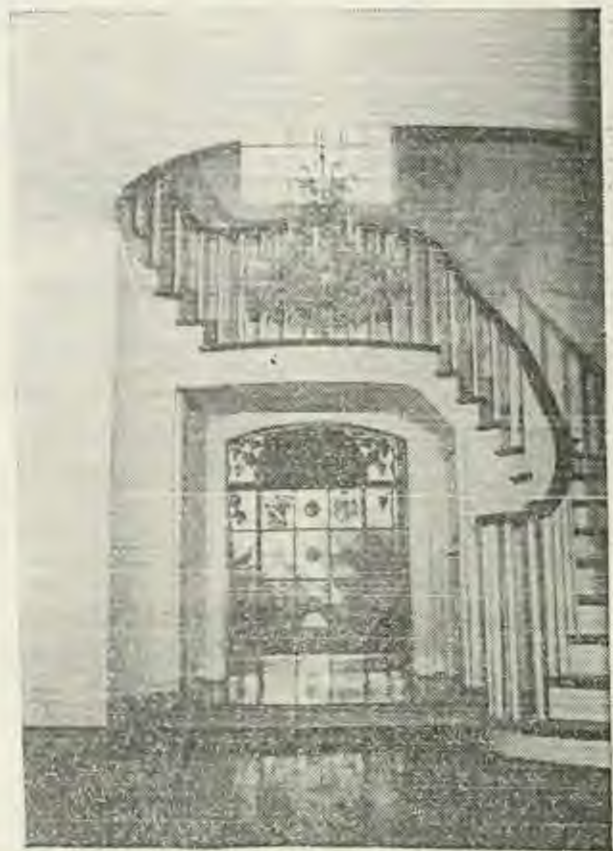
When Duane found the place last year, it was well on its way to oblivion. Although the house was still structurally sound, the interior was a shambles. The land had been bought by a developer who was putting up contemporary-type houses that enveloped the mansion, and the future of the big house was obscure.

DUANE MANAGED to buy the place, along with a surrounding tract of 2½ acres. He'd have liked more, but that was all that was available. Then he went to work.

He was lucky. He has in his employe an Argentinian, Ricardo Morillas, a man of many talents, who has been able to make all sorts of improbable restorations.

"Without him, the whole project would have been impossible," Duane concedes.

Altogether, some 30 people have worked on the job in various capacities. There was heating and electrical work. The doors had to be thorough-







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