

CABELL FAMILY HOMES

Primarily in Nelson, Buckingham & Amherst Counties, Virginia

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SECTION I

PREFACE

INTRODUCTION

This information was compiled over many years, originally intended solely for the use of my immediate family.

This is not intended to be a literary masterpiece. Rather, my original purpose was to gather information on various Cabell homes, primarily in Nelson, Buckingham and Amherst County, Virginia, for my own personal use. I have plagiarized, misspelled, made typos and made plenty of mistakes. Hopefully, more information will be added, corrected and updated. Please contact me with additional information or corrections. This information constantly is being updated.

I am grateful to the homeowners, Cabell Foundation, Inc. members and historical societies for making their homes and resources available to me, as well as the many authors through the years who have loved and valued these unusual homes.

Archer Guy Minardi
Richmond, VA

mrsmin@juno.com

1998

Revised 2012

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2012

FOREWORD

The Cabell Foundation, Inc. is deeply indebted to Archer Minardi for so graciously lending us her personal research, included herein. She has spent many hours searching articles and volumes long out-of-print. Her long efforts will enhance our knowledge and be a valuable resource for members of The Cabell Foundation as we seek to learn more about the family.

In 1947, Archer's uncle, Briscoe Guy, then a student, wrote a fascinating paper for an English class at The University of Virginia. His primary resource was Alexander Brown's *The Cabells And Their Kin*. Though written over fifty years ago, much of Briscoe Guy's paper is still pertinent:

“Riding through the Virginia countryside, one is impressed at once by the number of old homes and towns of past centuries. If the traveler chances upon some of the ‘back country’ roads, where modern hands have had little effect, he will see small towns and plantation homes that have remained unchanged through the years....”

“For two and one-half centuries, the James River in Virginia was the center of population, travel and trade. ... By 1730, settlements along the James had advanced as far as Scottsville. It was in this year that a young doctor, who had at first settled lower down on the James in Goochland County, now decided to move westward beyond the farthest settlements.

“Beginning about 15 miles above Scottsville, Dr. William Cabell staked out all the lowgrounds on both sides of the James River for twenty miles in the present counties of Amherst and Nelson. By picking only the lowgrounds, he left the interior to be taken up at his leisure, knowing that no one else would want the land without having access to the vital river transportation.

“...By selecting his home at the lower end of his grant on the banks of Swan Creek, Cabell established the parent plantation which in the course of forty-seven years was to enjoy so much trade that the settler's sons were prompted to establish a town on

the site (Warminster.) Cabell's prime motive for moving to this wilderness area was probably the profits to be reaped in the development of frontier lands. He realized that this land was in the path of civilization moving up the river and would soon become very valuable....

"As a result of Cabell's land development activities, Warminster estate gradually began to grow into a community which served the surrounding plantations for some miles away through the supply trade down the James. It was the custom for the large landowners to get tenants to rent the various tracts, or else sell off the land at a profit. (By law, three out of every fifty acres had to be improved.)

"...Coincident with the settling of the surrounding lands, Cabell realized that he was in a perfect position to transform the shipping of his own supplies into a full scale commercial venture to supply the other landowners from the warehouses in Richmond via the James....The location of Cabell's plantation afforded a convenient site for a mill and warehouses to accommodate the other landowners' exports. In view of the fact that the roads to Richmond were all but non-existent, the river was left as the quickest, cheapest, and easiest means of transportation."

"...Dr. William Cabell held great prestige as first settler, land-owner, and leader of the community...."

"It was just two decades after Cabell's first settlement that the county of Amherst was formed (1761) from the lower half of old Albemarle County. Cabell's start had led others to settle to such an extent that two new counties were formed; crops were regularly exported to Richmond; and business was flourishing...."

"At this point, the sentiment against Britain had come to a head, and the Revolution was to begin....Shortly after the Revolution, trade of all sorts was increased, but due to the importance of tobacco in the life of that day, this staple was the dominant concern of everyone...."

"In the Colonial period in Virginia, the county played a much larger part in local life than it does today....County officers...all enjoyed much more prestige than they do today." Dr. Cabell held many public offices and his sons, who all owned large tracts of land, followed his footsteps into public life. "They joined that group unofficially known as the 'ruling aristocracy...."

When old Dr. Cabell died, "... his youngest son, Nicholas, inherited the family residence, and the entire lower end of the parent plantation..." The town of Warminster was duly laid out, with lots on either side of the road; owners of the lots had to build within three years.

"The hill overlooking the James had been completely transformed in the half century since Dr. Cabell settled. Instead of being in the midst of a wilderness traversed only by Indians and hardy buffalo hunters, the ... land was in the center of a flourishing district..."

GROWTH OF THE COMMUNITY

"... When Dr. Cabell staked out his claim on the upper James, he pushed fifty miles farther west than the last known white settlement... All comforts of civilization would have had to be obtained entirely by his own efforts, since his only link with other settlements would be the rocky James which was often impossible to navigate... Timber had to be cut, nails, bricks, shingles, etc. fashioned out of the materials at hand, land cleared to raise food, a mill constructed..., a landing built for the infrequent trips downstream... He must have foreseen the time when there would be many plantations besides his own at the foot of the Blue Ridge.

"Civilization moved rapidly. Before the Revolution, all of the Piedmont area of Virginia had been settled. Since land was abundant and cheap, the settlements spread out over a large area. Roads were poor, and it sometimes took a whole day to get to a neighbor's house only twenty-five miles away.

"... The plantation owner's moneyed income was derived almost solely from tobacco which was planted year after year without thought of crop rotation... But each settler had to solve that one enigma common to all, the elements..."

"During this period, Cabell's plantation became a gathering center... We can imagine whole families setting off for the day to Dr. Cabell's, to get supplies, exchange ideas, and indulge in the pastimes of the day.

Through these excursions, the people of the area gradually came to know each other rather intimately. In discussing their common problems, partaking of their few pleasures, and consummating business transactions, the leaders among them began to be known as such.... This... resulted in a close knit society where social positions were divided much more sharply than they are today. The leader or 'man in the great house' was regarded as the oracle of the common people.

By education, experience, and perseverance, the leader outshone the rest in all matters. He was not a member of the aristocracy merely because of his wealth, but as a result of his general integrity.... There were many who belonged to that sect which Jefferson called the natural aristocracy....”

GROWTH OF THE FAMILY

When the Founder's sons grew up, they generally settled parts of their father's land and married into other families nearby, or even into their own families. There are many cases of the joining of first cousins and some of double first cousins....

... Through these intermarriages and the common problems of struggling for a living, there grew up a very close spirit of helpfulness and hospitality which became a tradition throughout Virginia. They were more than willing to help one another in times of trouble or need. Visits of a week or more were common, those of several months not unheard of.

To counteract the rigors of an isolated life and relieve the danger of losing the benefits of civilized life which their fathers had gained, this “wilderness society” introduced many institutions which they had known in England... Drinking, gambling, and “bull sessions;” an excuse for gathering of any sort; court days, elections, and the “political bowl of punch,” church, trading, racing, and club meetings.

... Schools sprang up at an early date, since it was normal for those who had earned a position to want to equip their sons to retain it. Secondary instruction was generally given by a tutor who was either persuaded to set up a small school for the neighborhood, or else to come to the homes to give instruction to children of several families, rotating among plantations for several months.

...As long as Virginia remained a colony, the Church of England was the established religion. Before and during the Revolution, the Church lost favor and was gradually reduced in size....However the Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, and Quakers grew in number and strength during and after the Revolution.”

PROSPERITY

Just before the turn of the 19th century, conditions for a period of prosperity seemed good. Reasons were twofold: Tobacco and Transportation on the river. Members of younger generations of the Cabell family began to build homes appropriate to their wealth and their positions in the community. Social life flourished; education progressed toward more classical schools and colleges of higher learning, the established church gradually began building up its membership again.

“As before, the weather remained the big question in everyday life....Damaging floods occurred annually... Severe droughts often caused financial losses by delaying shipments at crucial times.... American politics were fluid or pliable.... Members of the government were for the most part honest and sincere.... They were in government because they had a real desire to put into practice the ideals which they had fought for.... Patriotism stirred up by the Revolution and the greater relative importance of the position probably were important factors. ‘The one family rule’ custom was also a contributing factor, since the young men of the family were well trained and educated in the ways of politics early in life.”

DECLINE

As the 19th century progressed, however, “The tobacco trade began losing ground due to competition from small towns nearby, and also adverse weather conditions. Droughts, heavy rains, and early frosts had a fatal effect on the crops ... for the period 1806-1808.... The James River and Kanawha Company, established in 1835, took over the James River Canal and built it as far as Lynchburg.... The new waterway opened up a whole new era of agricultural prosperity for the State as a whole, but for towns such as Warminster, it meant only ruin.... Instead of bringing in trade, the canal

spirited away the last remains of what little there was left.” Roads were poor and it was difficult to improve them to encourage trade.

... With the loss of all hope of a revival of trade, the gradual decline of the 1820's and 1830's became an abrupt drop in prosperity. As a result, “The inhabitants headed for ‘greener pastures’. Some members of the Cabell family moved as far away as Kentucky.

The period from Dr. William Cabell's first settlement, through the 19th century, saw many changes and developments in Nelson, Amherst and Buckingham Counties. In the beginning, “these counties became ‘kingdoms,’ in which...landowners exerted much influence and generally obtained the highest elective offices, a practice which gradually evolved into the custom of ‘one family rule.’...A society of country gentlemen owning large estates gradually grew up which was characterized by a warm hospitality and helpfulness....”

Briscoe Balwin Guy. “Warminster: Ghost Town of the Virginia Countryside. University of Virginia, 1947

Brown, Alexander. *The Cabells and Their Kin*. Union Hill. 1895

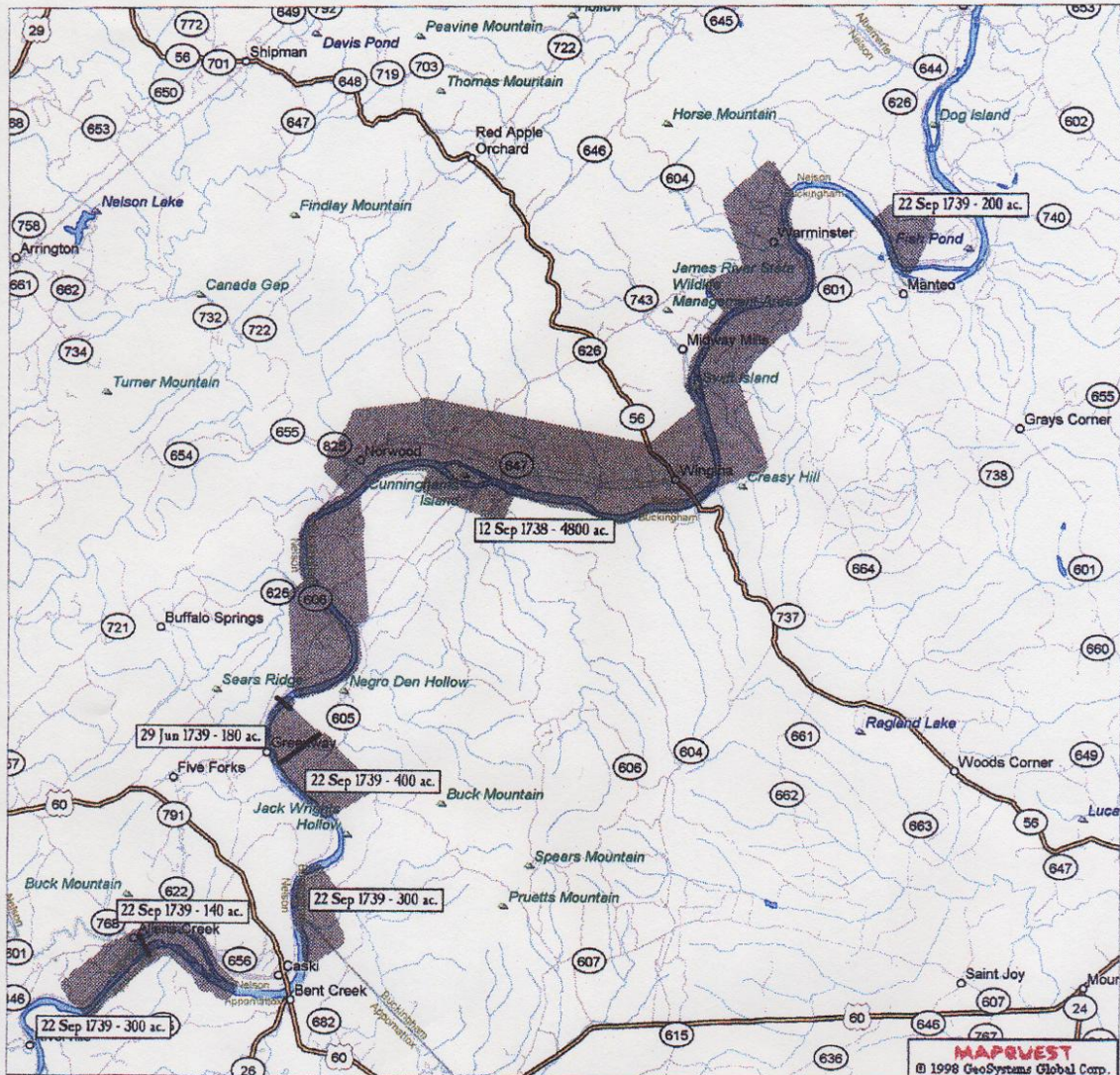
But civilization continued to move on up the James River. Other towns and areas gained importance, and many of the early Cabell homes were left to struggle on through the 19th and 20th centuries. Now, in 2002, some are beginning to reawaken to their earlier potential.

Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale MacIntosh
Haverford, Pennsylvania
August 1, 2002

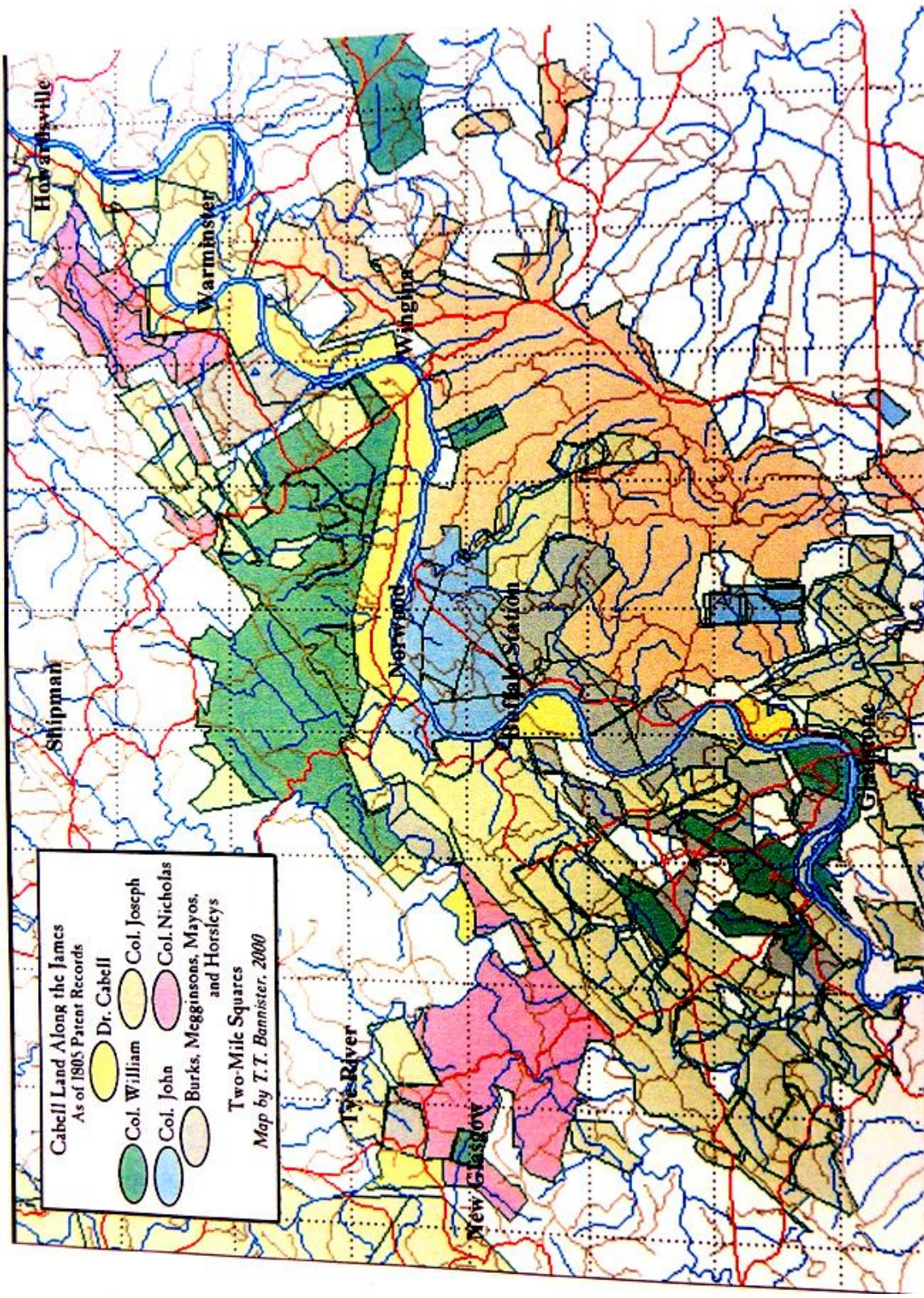
SECTION II

MAPS

Wm Cabbell's 1738 and 1739 Patents



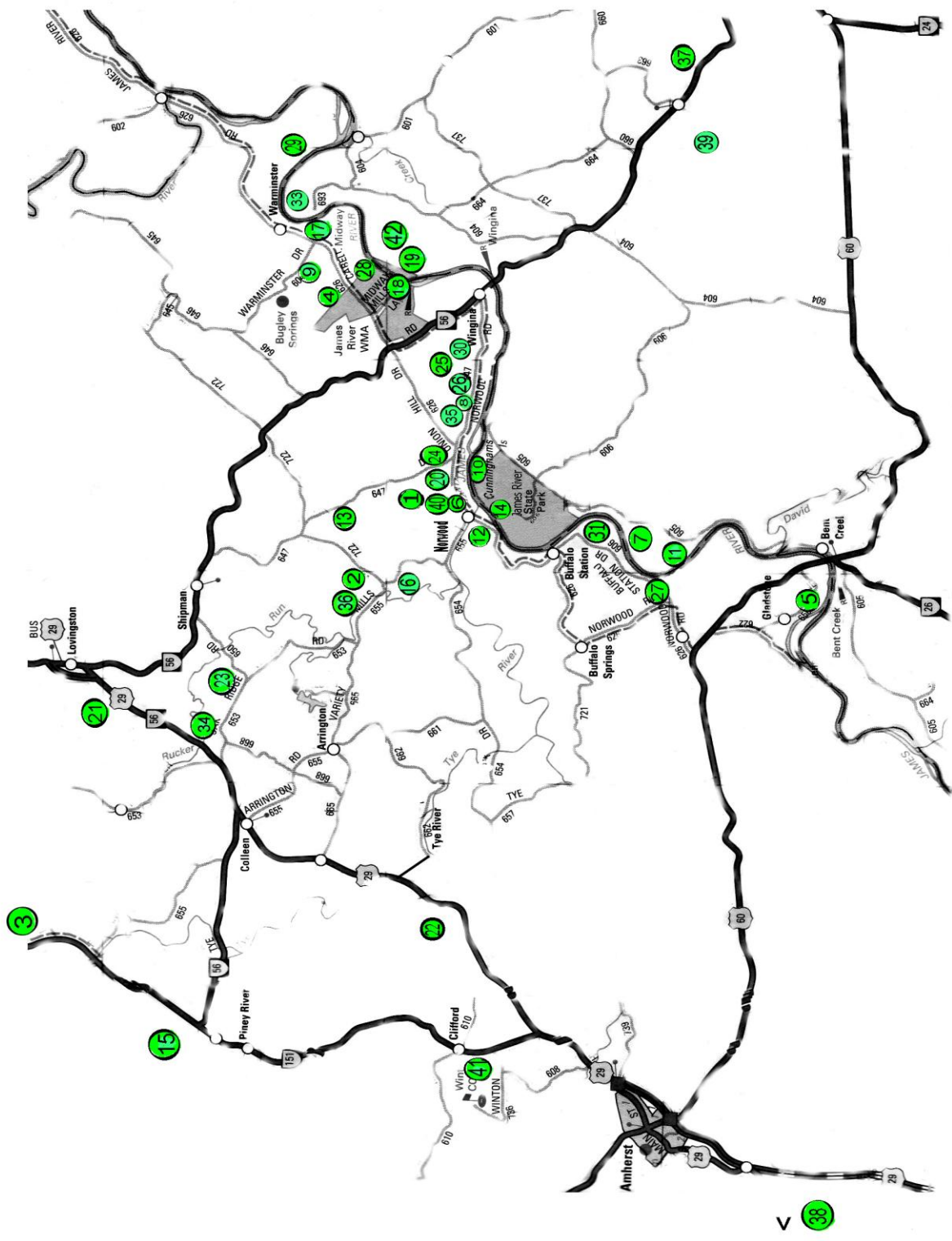
Randy Cabell



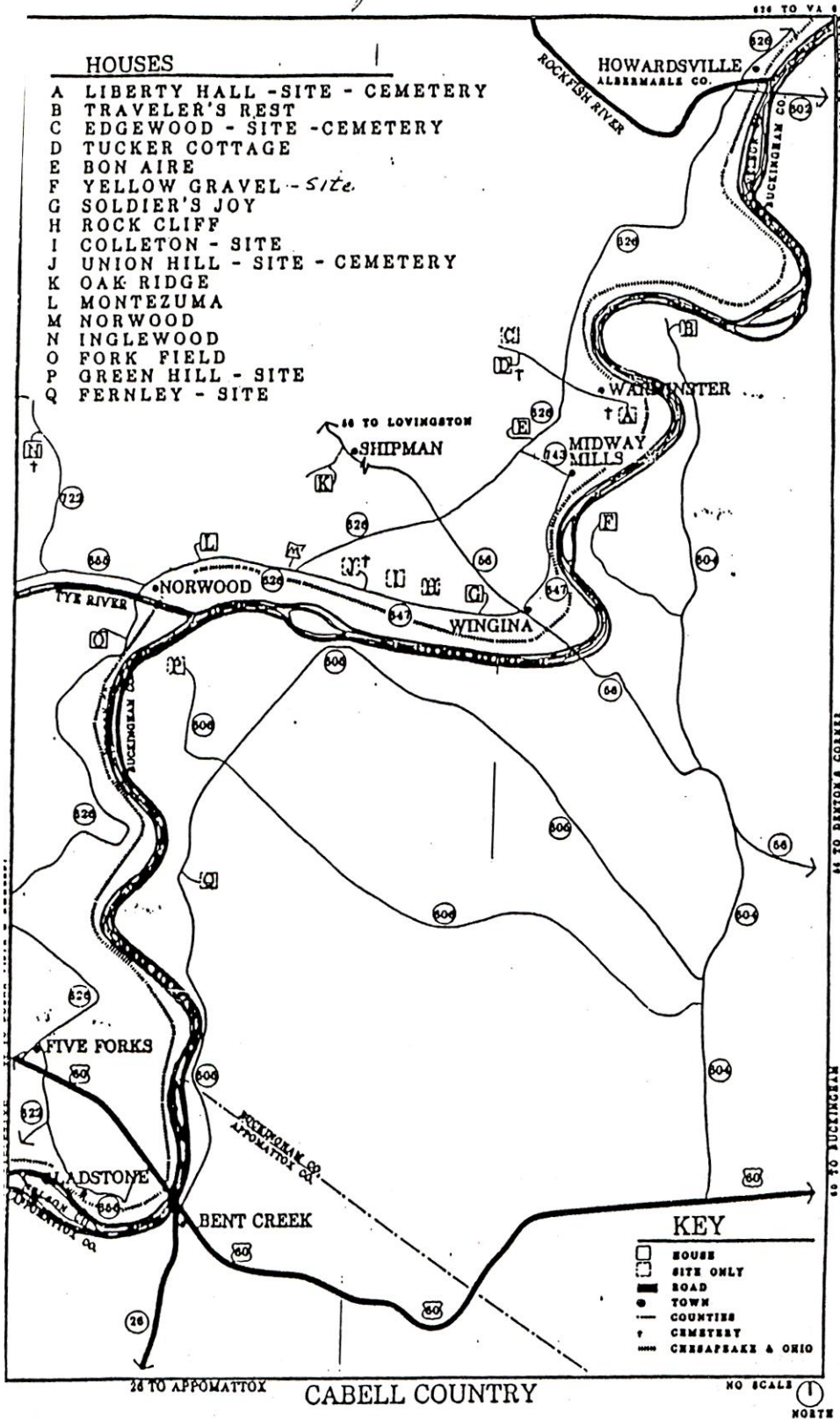
Cabell Land Along the James
 As of 1805 Patent Records
 Dr. Cabell
 Col. William Col. Joseph
 Col. John Col. Nicholas
 Burks, Megginsons, Mayos,
 and Horsicys
 Two-Mile Squares
 Map by T. T. Bannister, 2000

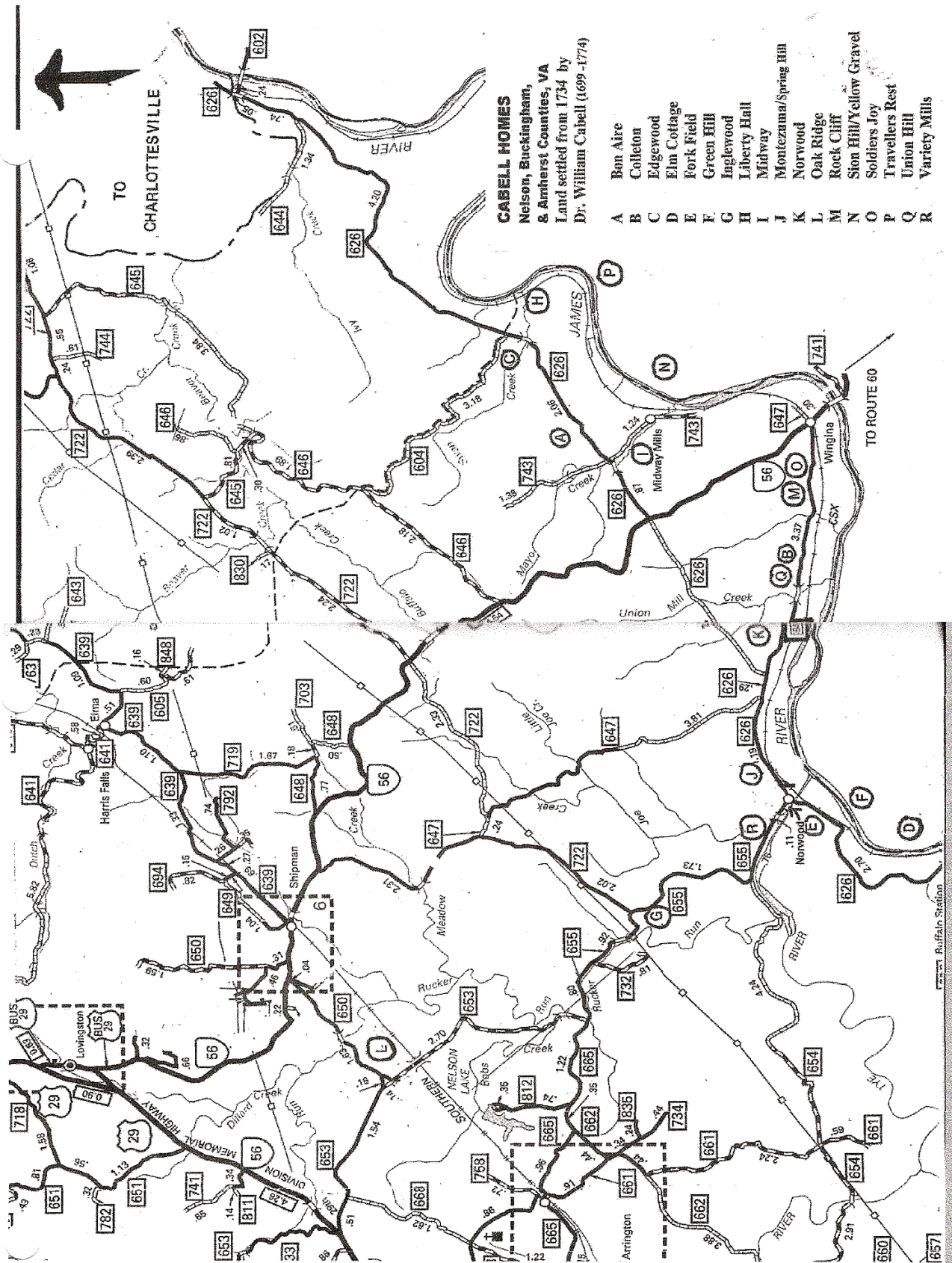
- 1 Altavista
- 2 Belmont
- 3 Blue Rock
- 4 Bon Aire
- 5 Centre Hill
- 6 Christ Church
- 7 Clover Plains
- 8 Colleton
- 9 Edgewood
- 10 Elm Cottage
- 11 Fernley
- 12 Forkfield
- 13 Glenmore
- 14 Green Hill
- 15 Harewood
- 16 Inglewood
- 17 Liberty Hall
- 18 Midway Mill
- 19 Montevideo
- 20 Montezuma
- 21 Mountain Retreat
- 22 Mountain View
- 23 Oak Ridge
- 24 Old Norwood
- 25 Red Gables
- 26 Rock Cliff
- 27 Rose Hill
- 28 Simpson House
- 29 Slaty Branch
- 30 Soldier's Joy
- 31 Struman
- 32 Three Springs
- 33 Traveller's Rest
- 34 Trinity Episcopal Church
- 35 Union Hill
- 36 Variety Mills
- 37 Variety Shade
- 38 Verdant Vale
- 39 Wilderness
- 40 Wm M. Cabell House
- 41 Winton
- 42 Zion Hill/Yellow Gravel

Sites are approximate



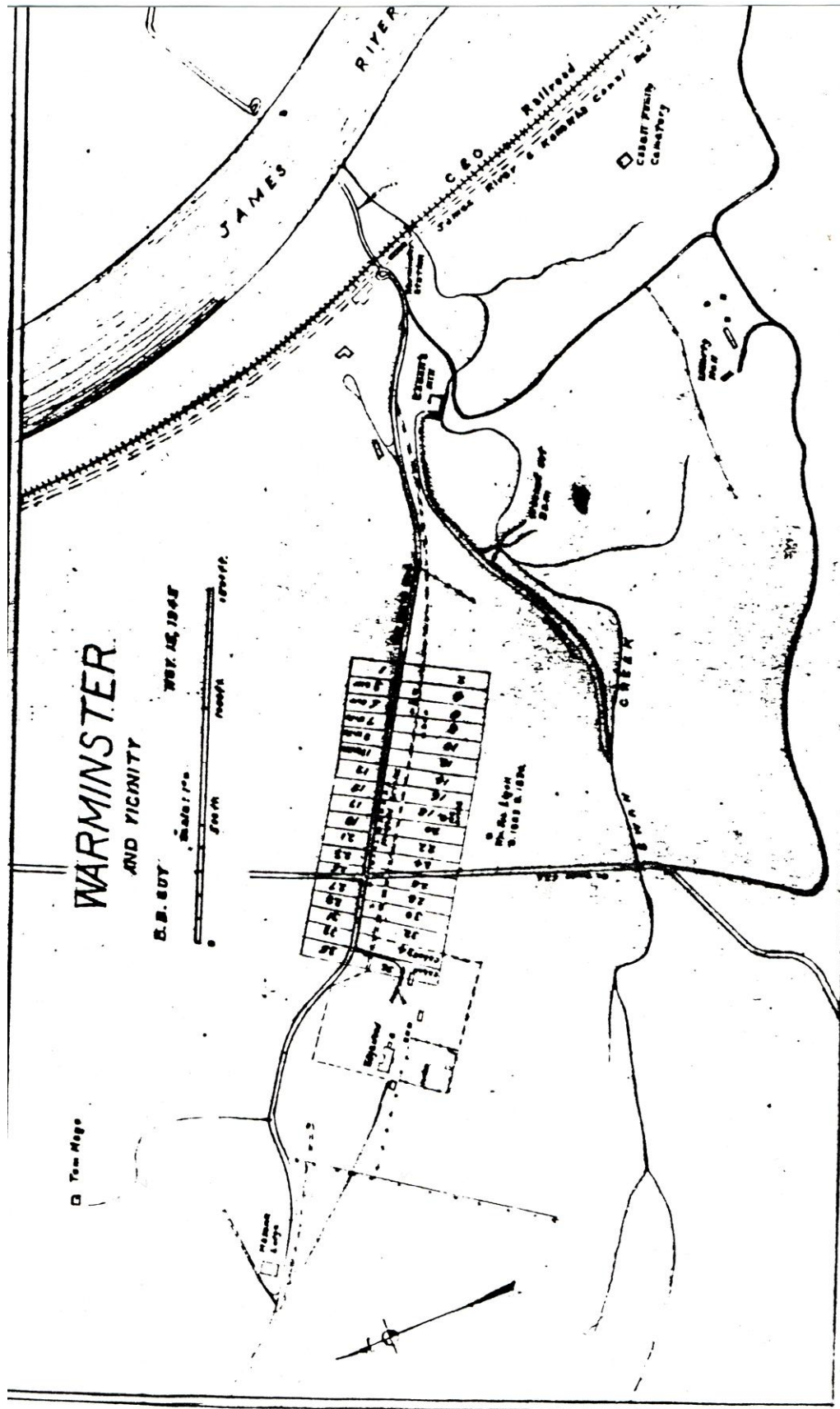
Sites of Cabell Homes





CABELL HOMES
Nelson, Buckingham,
& Amherst Counties, VA
Land settled from 1734 by
Dr. William Cabell (1699-1774)

- A Bon Aire
- B Colleton
- C Edgewood
- D Elm Cottage
- E Fork Field
- F Green Hill
- G Ingleywood
- H Liberty Hall
- I Midway
- J Montezuma/Spring Hill
- K Norwood
- L Oak Ridge
- M Rock Cliff
- N Sion Hill/Yellow Gravel
- O Soldiers Joy
- P Travellers Rest
- Q Union Hill
- R Variety Mills



Briscoe B. Guy

SECTION III

HOMES

ALTAVISTA

This Norwood home located on Route 626 on a hill 300 yards above Christ Church, was built about 1831 on property owned by Mayo Cabell.(1)

The T-plan house with three chimneys has five rooms and a center passage on the first floor and two rooms and a hall on the second floor. The floors are of four-inch pine and there are four-paneled doors. There are two dormers in the front and a one-story porch.(1)

The house currently is in a state of disrepair.(2)

Sources:

1. WPA Report, Library of Virginia
2. Nelson County Historical Society



WPA Report, Courtesy of the Library of Virginia



Nelson Co. Historical Society

Altavista



Digna Gantt
1/10

BELMONT

Located at the foot of Findlay's Mountain, Belmont was built between 1810 and 1814 by Robert Rives. The square plan Flemish bond brick house with a hipped roof had two inside chimneys. By 1938 the original "small double porch with fancy carvings" had been replaced by a simple porch with six Doric columns. The front door had a fan shaped transom with side lights. It had six over six windows and six-paneled doors with iron locks. There were 11 large rooms and one small room in the house with four inch chair-railing.(1)

Belmont was used as a hospital during the War Between the States and there is a Confederate graveyard near the house containing 25-30 graves.(1)

Robert Rives, husband of Margaret Jordan Cabell, gave this property consisting of 1168 acres to his daughter Lucy Shands Rives (1794-1872) in 1834. She was married to General Alexander Brown (1796-1864) in 1819.(2, 3). Robert Rives gave his son-in-law the Variety Mill estate.(3)

In 1938 the house was still standing, but it is no longer in existence. (4, 5)

At Norwood take Route 655 for 3 ¼ miles to Route 722 then proceed north ½ mile. The house was about 200 yards west of 722.(1)

Sources:

1. WPA Reports 1936 & 1938, Library of Virginia
2. 20th Century Cabells & Their Kin, Cabell, p. 117
3. Cabells & Their Kin, Brown, p. 464
4. Cliff Wood, notes 7/09
5. Callie Tucker, notes 8/1/09



1938 WPA Report, Courtesy of the Library of Virginia

BENVENUE

Benvenue was the home of Robert L. Brown (1820-1880) and his first wife, Sarah Cabell Callaway (1820-1849) before they moved to Sunnyside. They were the parents of Alexander Brown, author of *The Cabells and Their Kin*. He was the grandson of Robert Rives and Margaret Jordan Cabell (daughter of Col. William Cabell, Sr.). Sarah Cabell Callaway was the granddaughter of Col. William Cabell, Jr. and Anne Carrington Cabell.

Source:

Cabells & Their Kin, Brown, pp. 397-400, 466

BLUE ROCK

Blue Rock was the home of Sarah Carrington Cabell (1795-1831) & Dr. Thomas Massie (1783-1864). She was the daughter of Anne Carrington & Col. William Cabell, Jr. and granddaughter of Col. William Cabell, Sr. & Margaret Jordan.

The original 22 room house (3), which was built around 1816, burned around the 1870's-1880's. Another home was built shortly after the fire slightly behind the original site. The Victorian house incorporated Dr. Massie's office and the well and cooling room. The current house is a frame 2 ½ story home with a two-story rear ell.(2)

There is an early 19th century log smokehouse behind the house.(2, 4)

The house is located in Nelson County at 433 Blue Rock Lane, Roseland, VA.

Sources:

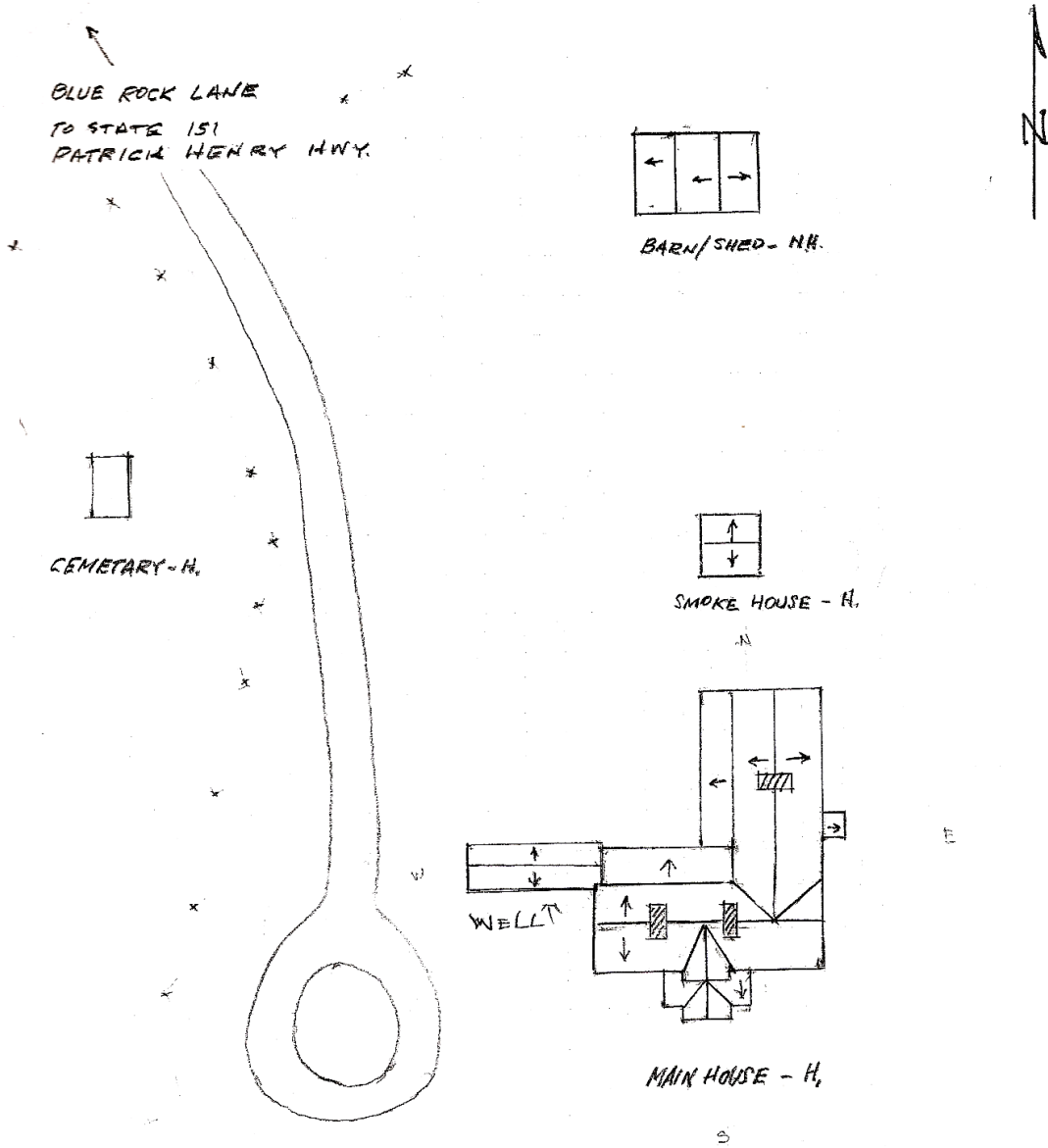
1. Cabells & Their Kin, Brown, pp. 410, 431
2. Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources
3. WPA Report, 1936, Library of Virginia
4. Peter Farley, notes 3/19/10



Blue Rock



Blue Rock



VA Dept. of Historic Resources

BON AIRE

In 1798 or 1799, Nicholas Cabell (1750-1803) of Liberty Hall, gave part of his estate to his son, Dr. George Cabell, Jr. (1774-1827). Some sources say Bon Aire was built in 1798(1) on 940 acres.(3, 4) but most likely construction began about 1809 but the house was not completed until 1812 due to lack of funds.(4) It was designed after his cousin George's house, Point of Honor in Lynchburg.(3, 4) "George built his Palladian villa on a peak that permitted an unobstructed view in all directions."(4) Not long after his wife's death in 1817, George moved to Lynchburg and then to Richmond. He sold Bon Aire in 1826,(4) the year before he died. In 1972 the property was bought by Ormonde Wilcox and his wife, Barbara Dallas Cabell, great, great granddaughter of Nathaniel Francis Cabell (Liberty Hall) and great, great, great, great granddaughter of Col. Nicholas Cabell, Sr.

The Federal "T" plan brick house (the bricks were made at the Liberty Hall kiln) (3) is laid in Flemish bond with 3 interior end chimneys on the north, east and west walls. It is a distinctive three-part Palladian design. The two-story, three-bay house with a central pavilion has 1 ½ story flanking wings with dormers. The house is over a raised basement. Jeffersonian influence is seen in the Chippendale railings of the double portico and in the staircase which is tucked in a side arch between the entry hall and the library. A 12 x 4 ft. archway divides the entrance hall from the library.(1) The entry is flanked by recessed-panel pilasters. "The traverse passage is an especially dignified room, designed to imply the greatest formality in a limited space. This is conveyed by the two arched openings, one marking the entry to the enclosed stair, the other framing the short barrel-vaulted entry to the parlor. In both instances, handsome arches with molded keystones spring from stop-reeled fluted pilasters. Remaining interior details, including pedestal-cap chair rails and simple molded baseboards, are restrained and unexceptional."(4) There are three rooms in the basement, three rooms plus an office and large room on the main floor and two attic rooms on the second floor. The double doors at the main entrance are still barred with oak timbers. The doors on the main level are wide Cross & Bible design and have the original brass locks.(3)

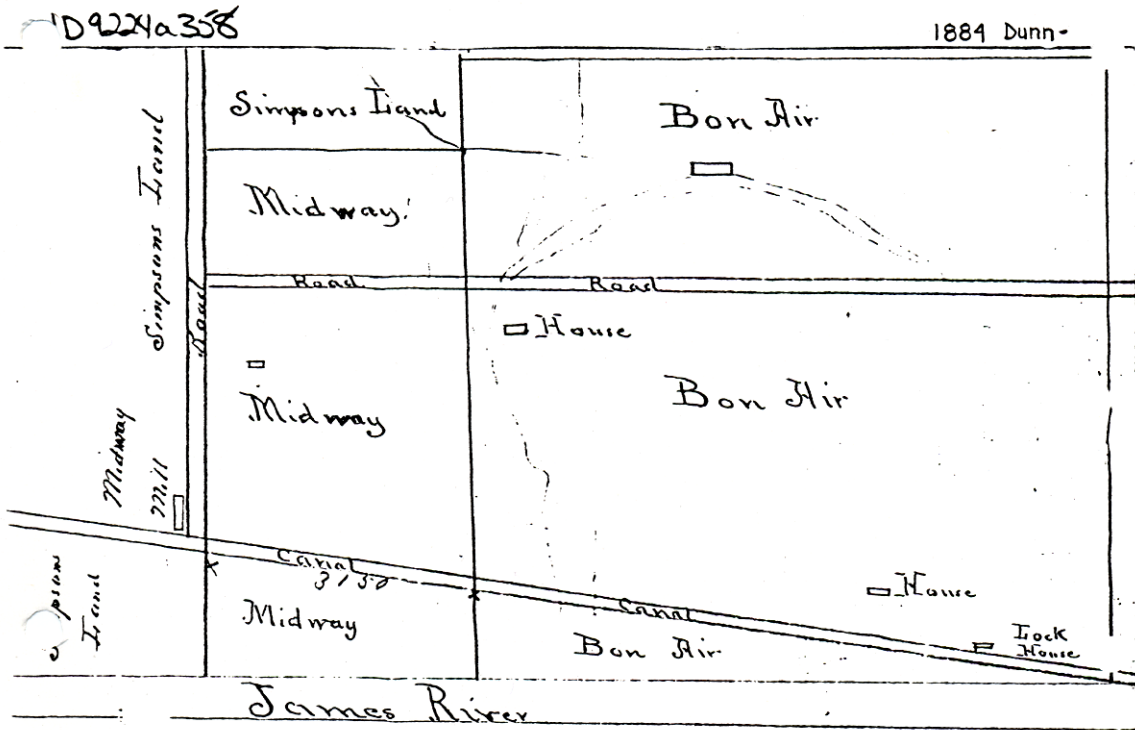
Bon Aire was remodeled in the 1940's and again in the 1950's.(3) Doric columns have been added to the portico and beneath the portico a balcony with supporting iron brackets has been added. Other additions include a tack room to the west and a country kitchen with an open porch to the east replacing the original kitchen.(1) In the 1950's an annex was added along with a second dining room, the kitchen, two storage rooms and a porch.(3)

Bon Aire is two miles south of Warminster on Route 626. The woods to the north of the property abut Edgewood. The cemetery is east of the house and stables are to the west.

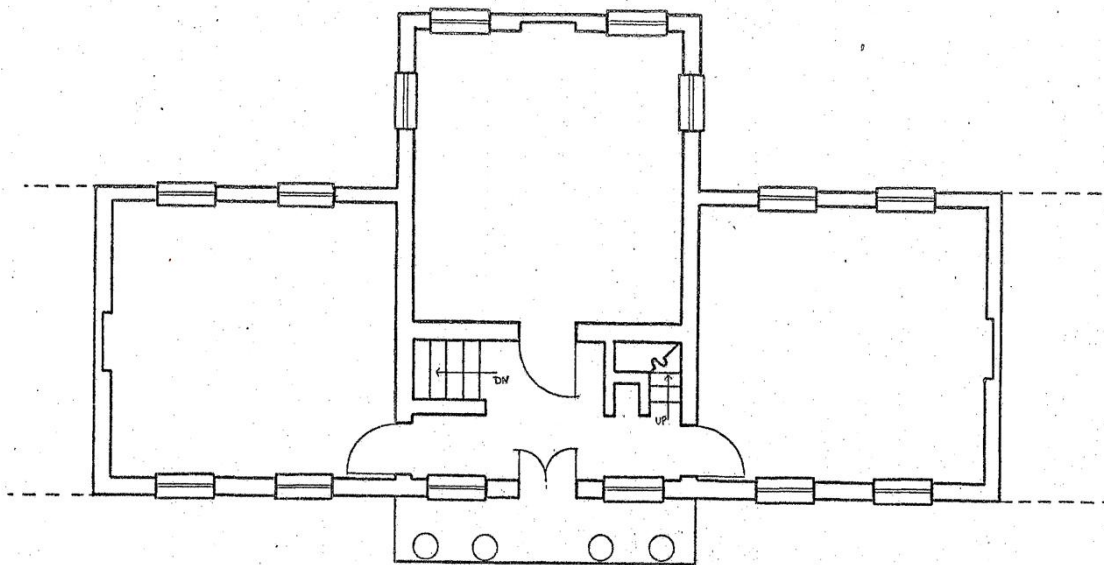
Sources:

1. Tuckahoes & Cohees, Seaman, p. 323
2. Daily Progress, 5/80
3. 2 untitled articles from Nelson Library
4. Palladian Architecture, Heck, pp. 5, 75-82, 351-2

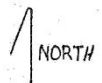
Bon Air



Nelson County Library



BON AIRE 1798



Merkal

Bon Aire



Photo 1930's before the disastrous alterations (view from southeast)

VA Dept. of Historic Resources

Bon Aire



11/02

Bon Aire



11/02

Bon Aire



11/02

Bon Aire



Elizabeth Richardson
2008

Bon Aire



Elizabeth Richardson
2008

Bon Aire



Elizabeth Richardson
2008

Bon Aire



Elizabeth Richardson
2008

BonAire



Elizabeth Richardson
2008

CENTRE HILL

Centre Hill was the home of Mary Cabell (1727-1760) and William Horsley (1726-1760). It was located at the present site of Gladstone Station. It was built on land owned by her father, Dr. William Cabell and was built prior to 1744.(2) It was the western most home site of the early Cabell homes. In 1763 the land was deeded to her four living children. Her son, William Horsley lived at Centre Hill and enlarged the estate by 2345 acres in 1780 and 1781. William's son, Robert Horsley was the next to live in the home. There are no remains of the house today although in 1991 part of the property remained in the Horsley family.

Mary Cabell and William Horsley are thought to be buried here.(3)

Sources:

1. History of Nelson County, Home Demonstration Clubs, 1964-65
2. Untitled article from Nelson Co. Library
3. Fern Ferneyhough letter, 7/15/59, 1955-88 Cabell Scrapbook, p. 67



Hill overlooking Gladstone



Gladstone Station

11/09

CLOVER PLAINS

Located in Buckingham County opposite Greenway Station, Clover Plains was the home of Captain William Megginson (1740-1776) and his wife, Elizabeth Cabell (1753-1771), daughter of Col. Joseph Cabell. William Megginson's sister, Martha, married William Horsley, son of Mary Cabell and William Horsley. Clover Plains had been the home of William and Martha's father, Col. William Megginson. Col. Megginson had purchased 580 acres from Elizabeth Cabell on the south side of the James River in 1739. He added more than 2000 acres to his holding and named his estate Clover Plains

Source:

Cabells & Their Kin, Brown, pp. 187-188, 247-248

COLLETON

Colleton, which was the original Union Hill, was built in 1760. It was a small, one or two room frame house (2, 5) “with carved oak and fancy woodwork”.(2) Col. William Cabell, Sr. (1730-1798) lived in the house prior to building Union Hill in 1775. As early as 1769, a tutor was teaching his son, Col. William Cabell, Jr. (1759-1822) in this home. In 1781 Col. William Cabell, Jr. was living here with his wife, Anne Carrington, and in 1783 he moved the house in the Union Hill yard to the Colleton estate which had previously been given to him by his father. Col. Cabell, Jr. remained at Colleton until he moved to Union Hill in 1803.(6)

The original small house was incorporated into a larger home.(2, 5) According to a 1937 WPA report, the enlarged house consisted of eight rooms with carved mantles and wide chairboards. There was an elaborately carved archway between the dining room and the hall. The WPA report also states that in 1910, a two-story addition consisting of five rooms on each floor was added to the back of the house. This addition was plain and had no woodwork.(4)

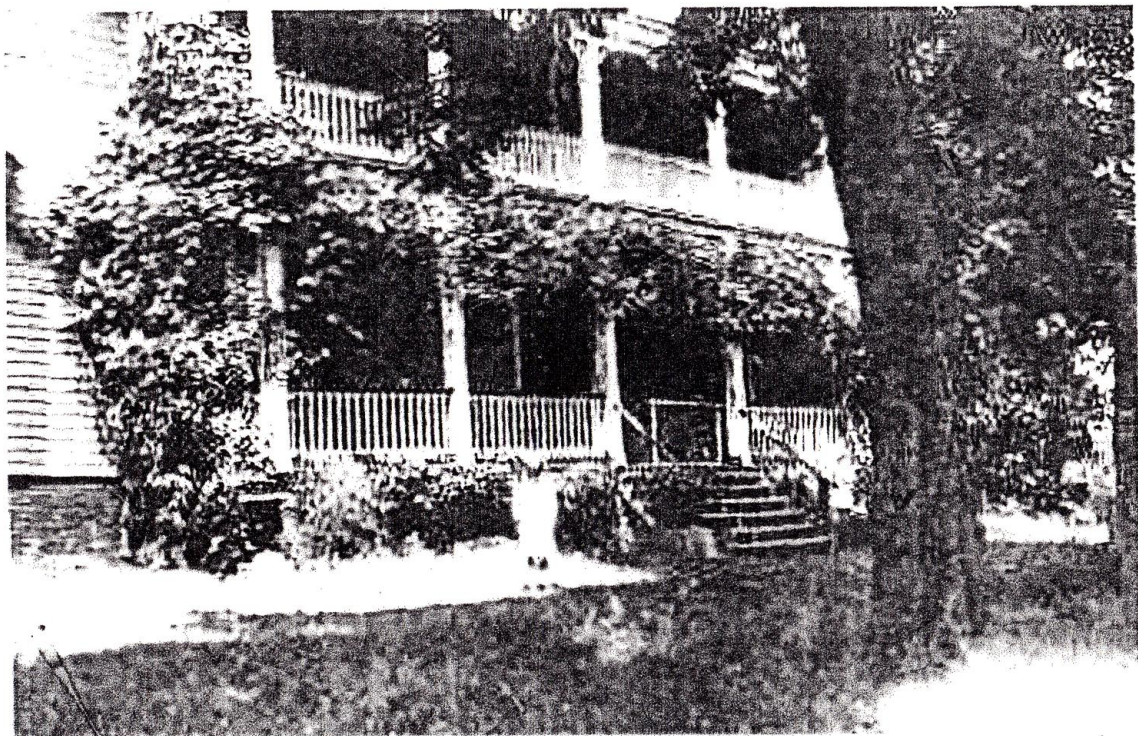
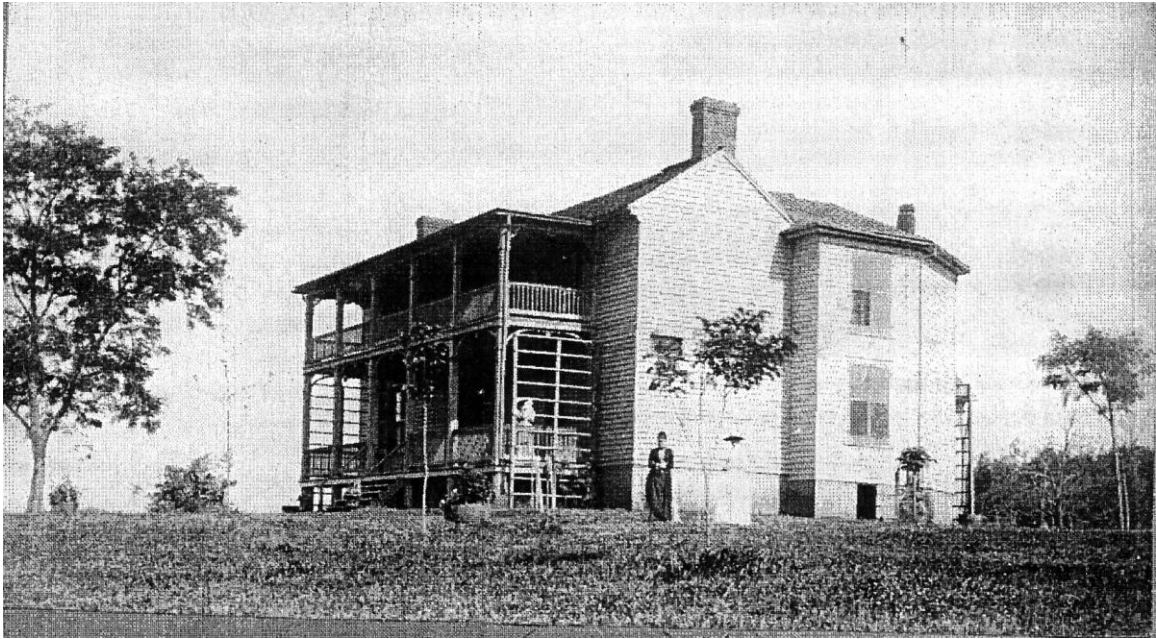
Evelyn Carter Byrd Cabell (1844-1910) purchased Colleton with her husband, William Russell Robinson (1841-?) in 1885. Russell Robinson “with characteristic if deplorable 1885 efficiency tore out all the beautiful paneling at Colleton and he substituted for the fine old wood mantles, new ones in either marble or soapstone. He also put in a modern steam heating system which proved to be a failure.”(3) Evelyn (Eva) was the daughter of Clifford, granddaughter of Frederick and great granddaughter of John. The Robinson’s had two children, Wirt and Clifford Cabell Robinson. Clifford Cabell Robinson inherited Colleton in 1910 and upon his death in 1934, his second wife, Emma Simpson Robinson, inherited the house.(4) Both Emma and C. Cabell Robinson are buried at Soldier’s Joy.

The house, which was located between Union Hill and Rock Cliff, was dismantled in the 1960’s. (2)

Sources:

1. Cabells & Their Kin, Brown, pp. 15, 216, 219, 284, 398, 590
2. Cabell Family Homes in Nelson County, Merkal, p. 2
3. 3/19/39 letter probably from Wirt Russell Robinson (1893-1967), 1955-88 Cabell Scrapbook, pp. 7-9
4. WPA Report, 1937, Library of Virginia
5. Callie Tucker, notes 8/1/09
6. Cabells of Union Hill, Cabell, p. 7

Colleton



Gantt

EDGEWOOD

Edgewood was built in 1790 by Robert Rives on a town lot in Warminster.(1, 2, 3) Robert Rives (1764-1845) lived there with his wife Margaret Cabell (1770-1815), daughter of Col. William Cabell and Margaret Jordan of Union Hill. They lived at Edgewood from 1791-1803 when they moved to Oak Ridge. In 1807, Edgewood was sold to Joseph Carrington Cabell (1778-1856), son of Nicholas Cabell and Hannah Carrington of Liberty Hall.

Joseph C. Cabell added single-story wings to each end of the original three-part home.(1, 12) A kitchen was built east of the house and linked by a low covered passage. Most likely the two rooms east of the center passage were the public area and the dining room was probably located nearest the kitchen. The wing to the west was the family's private quarters. Beautifully detailed porches were at both the north and south entrances.(12) At the time of his death in 1856, the house consisted of 12 rooms, two of which were libraries as Joseph's library was among the largest in Virginia, consisting of around 1500 volumes.(12). The oldest part of the house was the double H which opened to small verandas at the front and back and was linked to the side wings by one-story passages. There was a Jeffersonian staircase.

To the rear of the house, Joseph added a stable, carriage house and slave housing. "Cabell paved the floors of the cellars, smokehouse and dairy with bricks, plastered and whitewashed cellars and outbuildings, rebuilt hearths, repaired flooring and installed new stairs."(12)

Mary Carter Cabell, Joseph's wife, lived at Edgewood till her death in 1862 at which time the property was sold to Philip B. Cabell (1836-1904), son of Nathaniel Francis Cabell of Liberty Hall. In 1925 the house was owned by Philip's son, Joseph Hartwell Cabell (1863-1955).(3) Mary Cabell Somerville (1911-1998), daughter of Joseph Hartwell Cabell then became the owner. Robert Self (great great grandson of Philip Barraud Cabell) is the current owner of the property. He is meticulously restoring the cottage and outbuildings and lives with his wife, Ruth Ewers, in the Tucker Cottage.(9)

Although the house burned in January, 1955 (6), there remains in the yard, the St. George Tucker cottage, where Mrs. Mary Carter Tucker and her husband lived. Mrs. Tucker was the mother of Joseph Cabell's wife, Mary Carter. Both Mrs. Tucker and her husband are buried in the graveyard. In a letter dated August 31, 1820 from Joseph C. Cabell to John Hartwell Cocke of Brems, Joseph notes that he is pulling together material out of his house for the cottage for improvements.(10) Two University of Virginia workman, Lyman Peck and Malcolm Crawford were responsible for the interior woodwork.(10)

The three-bay frame Tucker Cottage was built around 1810-1820. The original two-room cottage is one-story with a loft and a center chimney with Federal attenuated mantels.(13) Box locks are on the six-panel doors. There is beaded picture molding, chair railing and crown molding. A rear addition was added about 1830-1840. The transitional style home (late Georgian to early Federal style) has six-over-nine windows.(11)

In addition to the St. George Tucker Cottage, some of the cottage dependencies also have survived. There is a smokehouse, dairy, dovecote, round brick ice house and frame slave quarters. "These are arranged in a linear pattern forming a street of buildings."(6) According to Bob Self, the original frame slave quarters no longer exist as they burned in the 1940's. A new structure was built on the original foundation.

The antebellum smokehouse is a small square building with closely set studs and a pyramidal roof supported by a king post truss and vertical vents.

Adjacent to the smokehouse is the dairy which is frame with a pyramidal roof and distinctive “S” shaped vents. There are remnants of faceted finials.

Along the row is the dovecote which is a square frame building with pyramidal roof and faceted finials.

“The three pyramidal-roof dependencies date to or at near the time of the main house (1790). All three buildings incorporate king-posts in their roof framing. King-post trusses, however, are something entirely different and do not occur in the smokehouse or either of the other two.” (10)

The icehouse is an above ground round brick building laid with 4 course American bond. The original conical roof burned in 1955. The pit is lined with stone. It has a dry well which collected water from the melting ice.

The log corn crib (or cornhouse) also has diamond notching and is a triple crib log structure.(6)

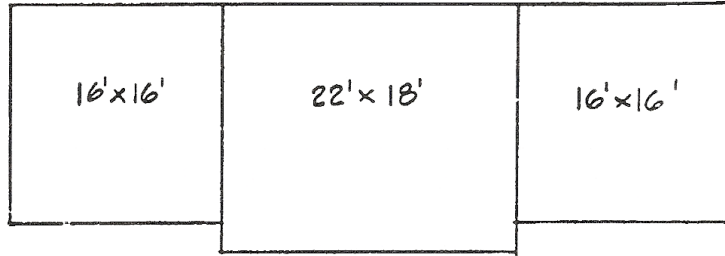
The cemetery, where Joseph Cabell is buried, is about 50 yards on the west side of Route 626 and 604.(5)

The property is on the southeast side of Route 626, 1.4 miles northeast of intersection with Route 743.

Sources:

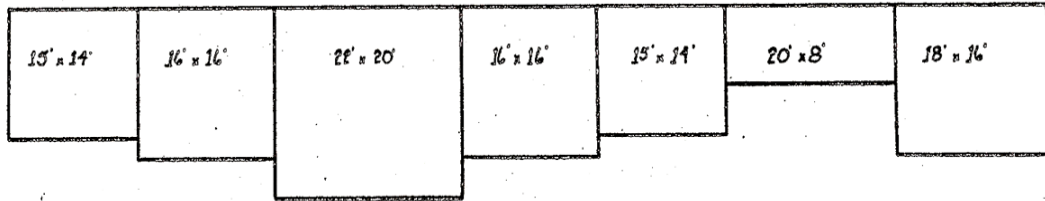
1. Historic Virginia Homes & Churches, Robert A. Lancaster, Jr., p. 201
2. The Measure & Mirror of Men, Marmon, p.8
3. *Nelson Co. Times*, Claiborne, p.16
4. History of Nelson Co., Home Demonstration Clubs
5. Cemetery sheet from Nelson Co. Library
6. Historic Resources of Nelson Co., pp. 29, 39-41, 46, 57, fig.18, 33, 39, 62, 63, 71
7. “In the Beginning” undated article from Nelson Co. Library
8. “Nelson County History” undated article from Nelson Co. Library
9. “The Cabell Family” vol. 43, No. 3, Aug, 1999
10. Robert Self, notes of 4/14/02
11. Virginia Department of Historic Resources
12. Palladian Architecture, Heck, pp. 67-75, 330, 334-5
13. K. Edward Lay, notes 10/02

Edgewood

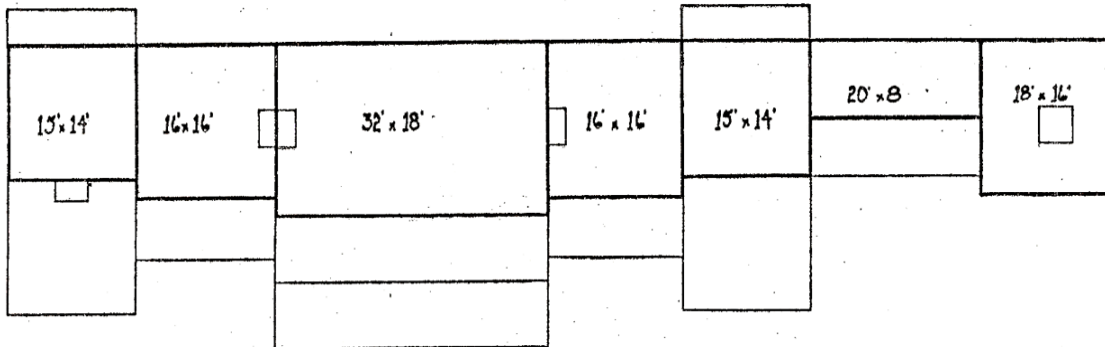
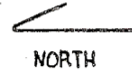


EDGEWOOD (ORIGINAL HOUSE)

Heck



EDGEWOOD 1813



EDGEWOOD 1816 AND 1955 AS ALTERED

KM

Merkal

Edgewood



EDGEWOOD, NELSON COUNTY

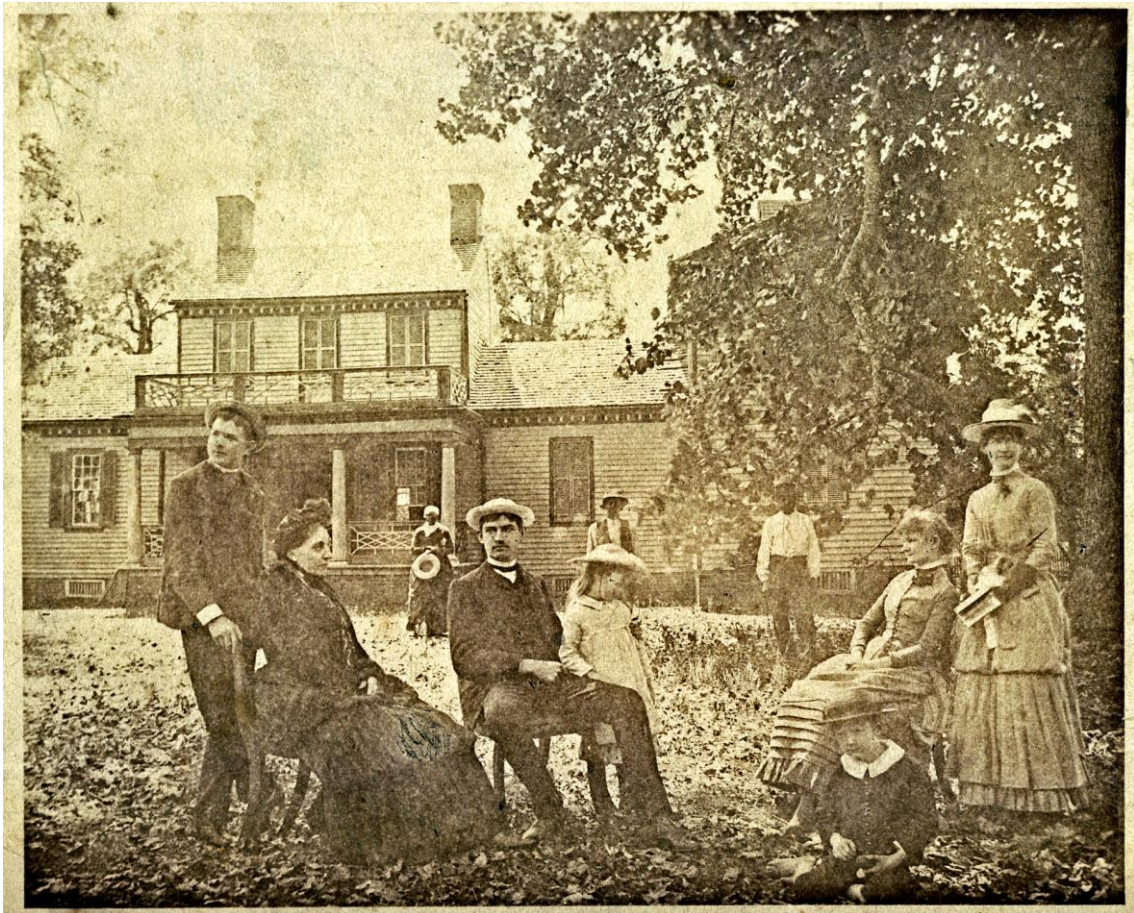
Robert A Lancaster



**"Edgewood," from Charles F. Gillette Photographs, 1905-1970, Accession #11083,
Special Collections Dept., University of Virginia Library, Charlottesville, Va.**

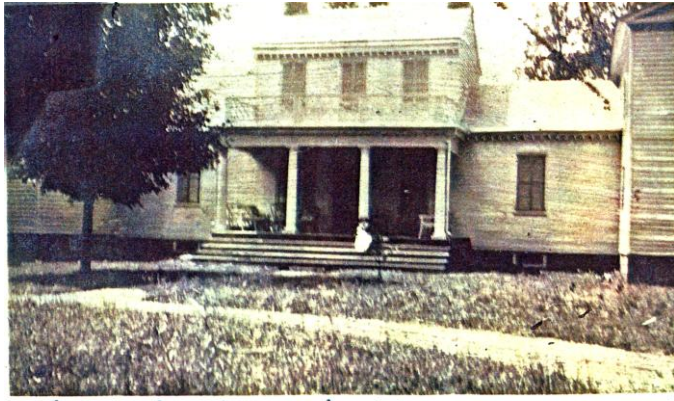
UVA

Edgewood



Bob Self

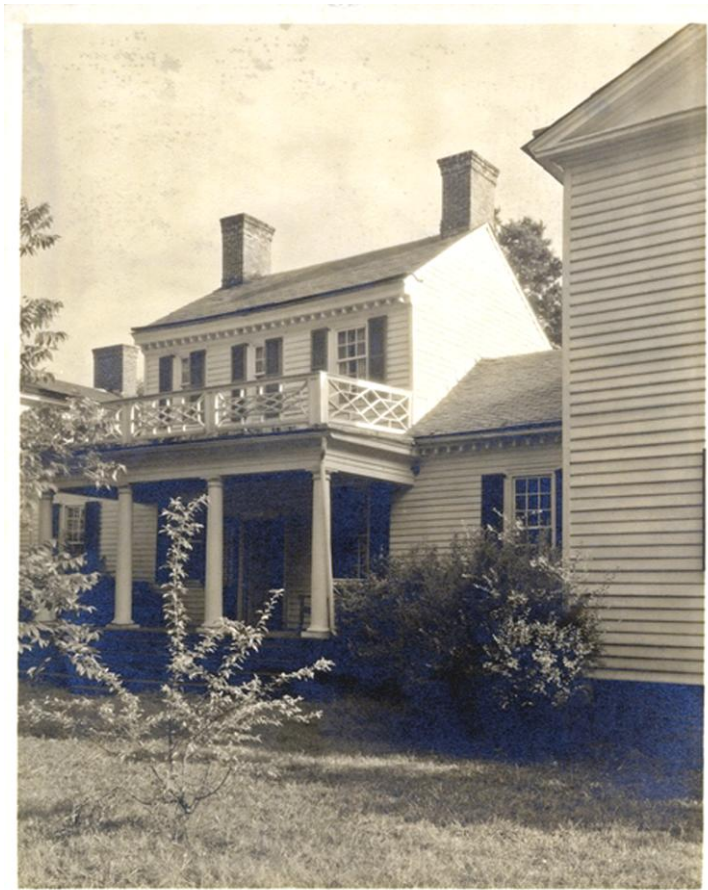
Edgewood



Front of Edgewood 1921



June 1921



1929

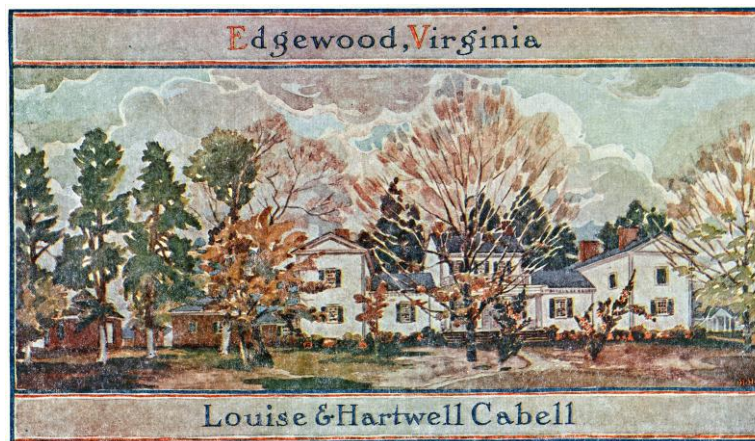


Bob Self

Edgewood



1937



Bob Self

Edgewood – Tucker Cottage

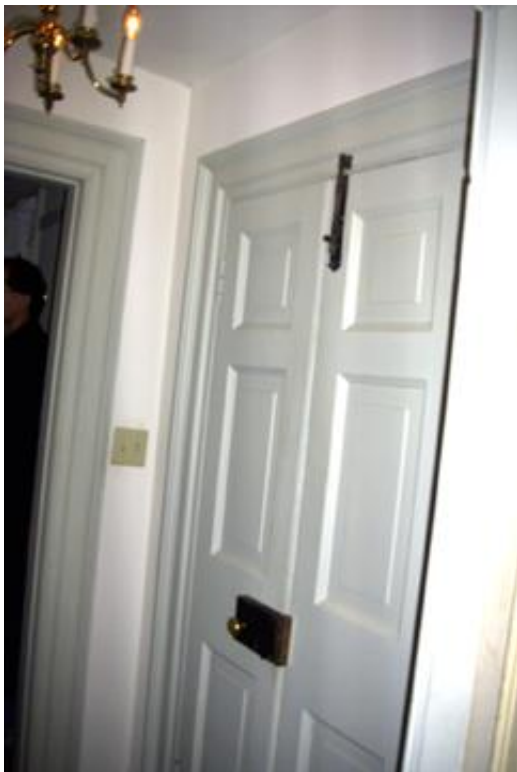


Bob Self

Edgewood – Tucker Cottage



Hannah Carrington Cabell



2002

Edgewood



Edgewood



1968



1977



2008

Bob Self

Edgewood



Edgewood Ice House

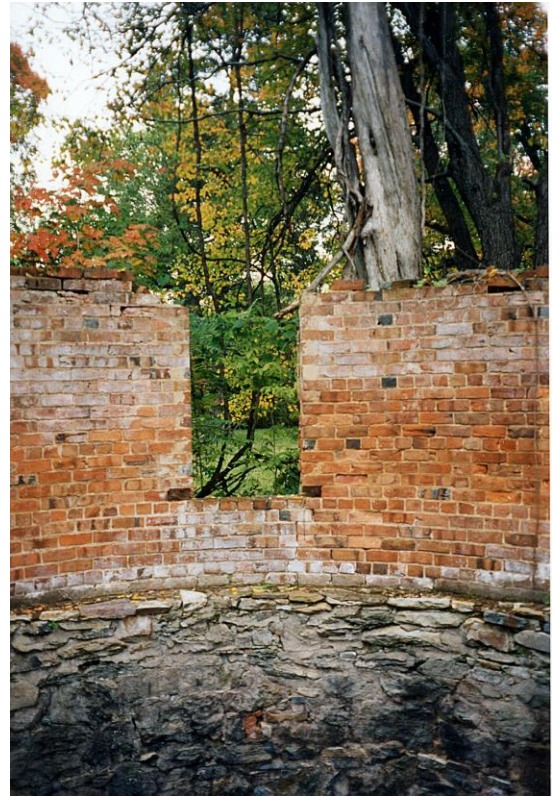


1961

1977

Bob Self

Edgewood



2002

Edgewood



ELM COTTAGE

John Cabell (1743-1815) moved from Green Hill to Elm Cottage, which was located about a mile down river from Green Hill in Buckingham County. After John's death at Elm Cottage, his son Frederick (1768-1841) purchased this property and Green Hill from his Father's heirs. (Also see Forkfield) Frederick left this property to his son, Clifford (1810-1871).(4)

Maria Louisa Graf & Thomas S. McClelland, Jr., who was the grandson of Col. William Cabell, Jr., and their daughter, Mary Greenway McClelland (1853-1895) moved to Elm Cottage in 1859.(3)

Although the house pictured here is known as Elm Cottage, it most likely is not the original house. About 1/5 of a mile from the existing house, are the remains of one of two massive chimneys, which may have been the original house. Tom Barton, the current owner, says that the existing Elm Cottage was originally a log cabin.

The Buckingham County property is off Route 605 near Cunningham's Island.

Sources:

1. Cabells & Their Kin, Brown, pp. 157, 265, 377
2. Peggy Dixon, 6/08
3. Library of Southern Literature article, John McLaren McBryde, Jr., p. 3477
4. Will of Frederick Cabell, Library of Virginia



Elm Cottage



Original Back Entrance



Upstairs Bedroom



1st Floor Bedroom Fireplace



Upstairs Bedroom Fireplace



Stairs



Passage Leading Between 2 Upstairs Bedrooms



Parlor

Elm Cottage



School House

Barns



Chimney

Elm Cottage



Larry Cabell
1977

Elm Cottage



Elm Cottage Front View.



Elm Cottage Rear View.

Betsy MacIntosh
From Alexander Brown's Collection

FERNLEY

Fernley, which was on route 605 in Buckingham County, no longer exists; however another house has been built on the site.

Clifford Cabell (1810-1871), son of Frederick and grandson of John, lived at Fernley with his wife, Margaret Couch Anthony (1814-1882). They are buried at Fernley. Clifford was a doctor and a farmer.

Clifford and Margaret's daughter, Mary Washington Cabell (1846-1917) married John Cabell Early (1848-1909) at Fernley in 1876. John was the son of Henry Ann Cabell (1822-1890), grandson of John Jordan Cabell and great grandson of John.(1)

Fernley was a two-story frame home with a rock foundation and 3 rock chimneys. It had a center hall with a room on each side (approximately 20 x 20) with fireplaces on the inside walls. The first floor windows were from ceiling to floor while on the 2nd floor there were 3 dormer windows across the front. The reverse dormers contained lead troughs set into the roof. The lead was removed and used for bullets during the War Between the States. A two story front porch was supported by large wooden posts, which were supposedly pulled down by Union troops and used for firewood. There was a one-story kitchen at the rear of the main floor. There were 2 more rooms on the rear. To the left of the back of the main house was an icehouse and in 1988 (and in 2004) the original barn, which was approximately 100 yards from the original house, was still standing.(2, 3)

During the War Between the States, a hospital was built in the woods behind Fernley, hidden from the Northern troops. Dr. Clifford Cabell treated the Confederate soldiers in this hospital.(4)

Evelyn Carter Byrd Cabell Robinson, Clifford's daughter sold the property in the 1880's to Josiah and Isaac Golladay (Golloday) and Josiah raised his family at Fernley. Josiah's grandson, John J. Miller, who sold the property in 1991, thinks the house was destroyed by fire in the 1930's.

Sources:

1. Cabells & Their Kin, Brown, pp. 589-590, 599
2. Charlotte Miller letter, 1/26/1988
3. Charlotte Miller letter, 1/11/1991
4. Peggy Dixon, 7/2/08
5. John J. Miller, 7/8/08

Fernley



Wirt Robinson Collection
Nelson Co. Library

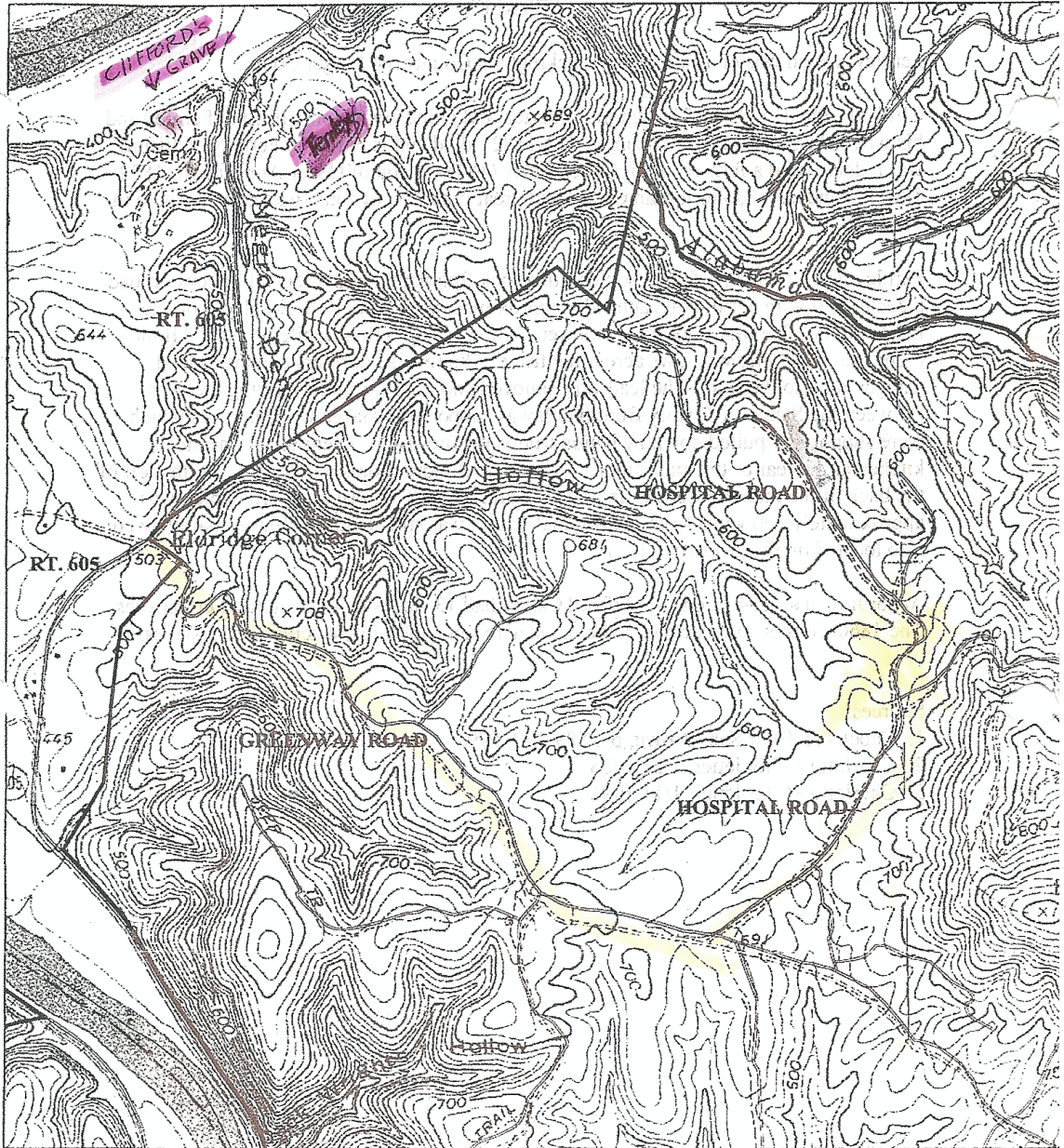
Wirt Robinson (1864-1929), grandson of Clifford Cabell, was born at Fernley and spent his summers at Fernley. He kept a journal of his activities during these summers and his life in Richmond from 1878-at least 1882. In 1883 he entered the Military Academy at West Point. (See Colleton)

Fernley Site



10/04

Fernley Map



Nancy Faxon

FORKFIELD

Dr. William Cabell deeded Green Hill and Forkfield to his son John. John gave Forkfield to his daughter Paulina (1780-1840) and upon her death, her brother Frederick (1768–1841) bought Forkfield from her estate.(1) Frederick’s son, Frederick Mortimer Cabell (1802-1873) may have lived at Forkfield with his wife, Clara Hawes Coleman Cabell.(3) However, Clara did live at Forkfield at the time of her death in 1901.(4)

The two-story brick T-plan house was built in the early 19th century.(2) The original house consisted of six rooms,(2, 3) two halls and two brick chimneys.(3) The eastern section is original and the western section was added about “50 years later.”(2) The interior six panel doors are pine and the front and rear double doors “have fan transom and side lights.”(3) “All windows & sashes were replaced c.1900 and the east portico added c. 1920.”(2) The east front is in Flemish bond while the rest is English bond.(2) The spring house on the north and the greenhouse and porches on the south are mid 20th century.”(2)

Because the property lies in the forks of the James and Tye Rivers, it was named Forkfield.(3) It is located $\frac{3}{4}$ miles south of Norwood on Route 626.

Sources:

1. Cabells & Their Kin, Brown, pp. 154, 265
2. VA Dept. of Historic Resources
3. WPA Report, Library of Virginia
4. Court House Records research, Elizabeth G. Richardson, 9/10



12/05

Forkfield



1908



1950



1960

Pat Price

Forkfield

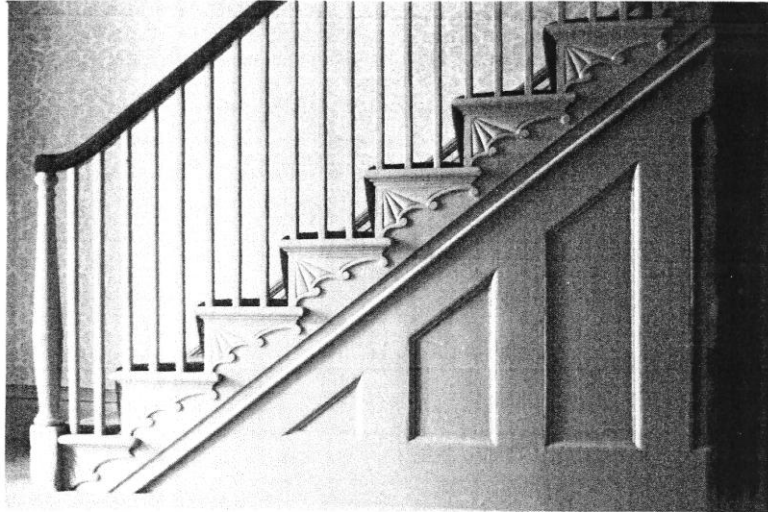


Dietrich



VA Dept. of Historic Resources

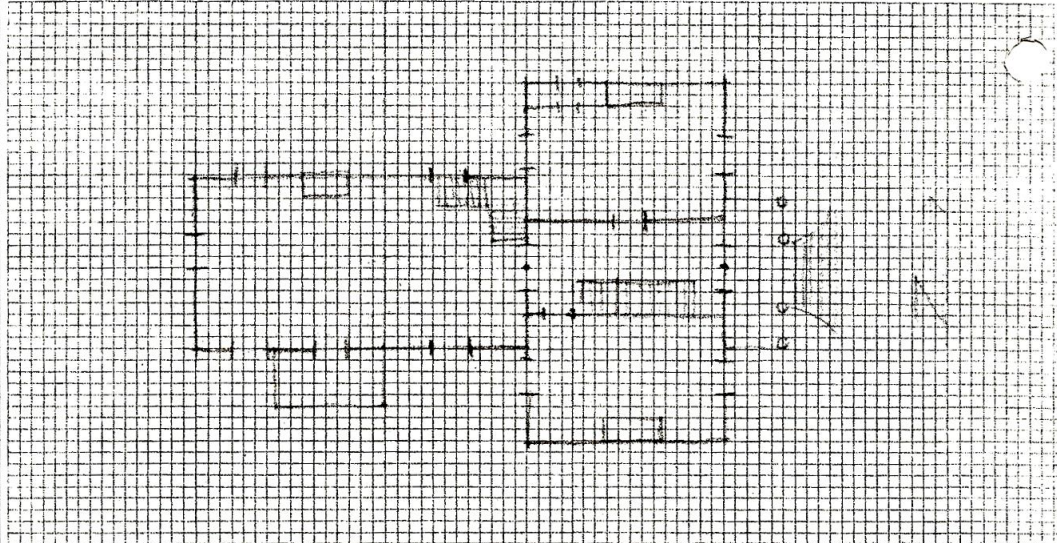
Forkfield



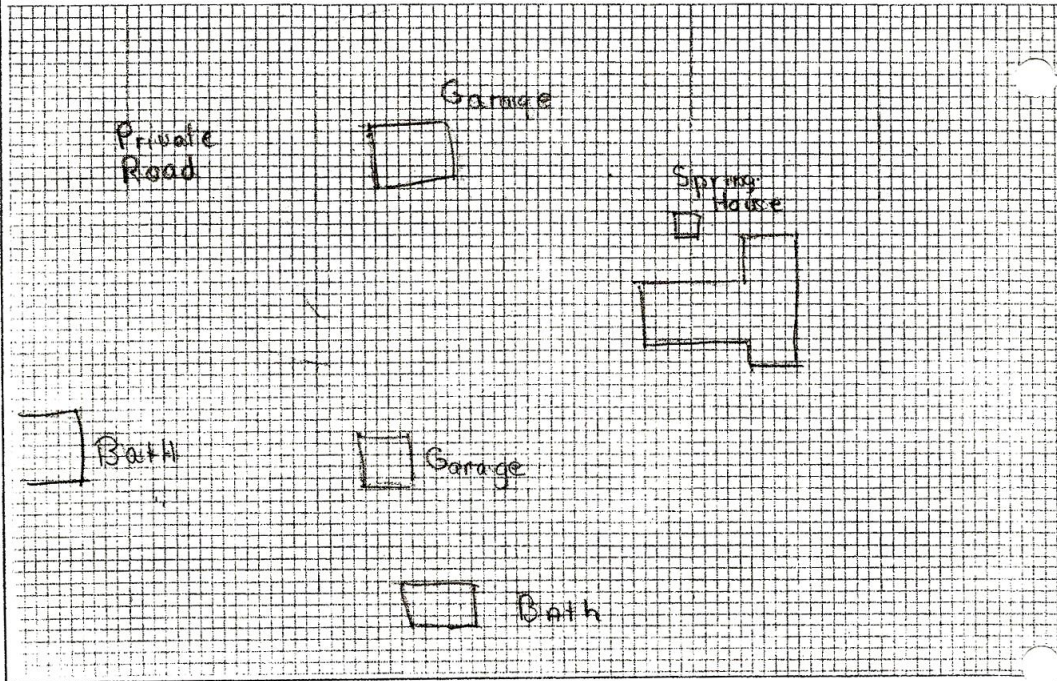
Forkfield

July 1962

11. First Floor Plan (Rough Plan indicating arrangement of rooms, doorways, windows on ground floor)



12. Site Plan (Locate and identify outbuildings, dependencies, and significant farm structures)



VA Dept. of Historic Resources

GLENMORE

Mary Elizabeth Cabell (1791-1867) & her husband Dr. George Callaway (?-1822) lived at Colleton while building Glenmore. She was the daughter of Col. William Cabell, Jr. & Anne Carrington and granddaughter of Col. William Cabell, Sr. & Margaret Jordan. Their daughter, Sarah Cabell Callaway, married Robert L. Brown at Glenmore in 1842. Their son, Alexander Brown (author of *The Cabells and Their Kin*), was born at Glenmore in 1843.(1)

Dr. George Callaway built Glenmore in 1820. The two-story rectangular frame house had two rooms and a center passage on each floor. There was a small one-story room on the back. There were two brick chimneys and a small one-story porch with carved balusters. Of the ten windows, some were six over six and some were nine over nine. There were both four and six-paneled doors.(2)

At the time of the WPA Report in 1937, Glenmore was still standing and still occupied by Callaways but is no longer in existence. (3, 4)

The house was located “1¼ miles east from Norwood, on Route 626, thence turn left, west at tobacco house and go three miles west on Route 647, through the mountains. House on west side of the road. Graveyard on the west side of the road.”(2)

Sources:

1. Cabells & Their Kin, Brown, pp. 397, 466-7
2. WPA Report, Library of Virginia
3. Cliff Wood, notes 7/16/09
4. Callie Tucker, notes 8/1/09

GREEN HILL

Green Hill, built by John Cabell (1743-1815), was a mile above Elm Cottage in Buckingham County. The two-story house was built about 1762 of heart pine.(3) It had “a cellar and dormer windows in the shingled attic; two sturdy chimneys stood at either end. Approached by steep flights of stairs, the roofs of high porches were supported by tall white pillars.”(3)

Frederick (1768-1841) purchased Green Hill from his father’s (John) heirs. Frederick’s son, Louis (Lewis) Warrington Cabell (1814-1890) inherited the property.(1) In the 1880’s Louis Cabell sold the property to Madison P. Dixon who built a home on Green Hill’s foundations about 1886. The house was said to be an exact replica of John Cabell’s Green Hill. The Dixons sold the property and the house was demolished in the 1980’s.(2) The property is now part of the James River State Park.

According to the Dixons, there was garden behind the house where John Cabell was buried. When they plowed the garden, bricks, from the graveyard, would surface.(2)

It is not known when the original Green Hill was destroyed but John Cabell was living at Elm Cottage at the time of his death.

The property is on Routes 605 and 606 in Buckingham County.

Sources:

1. Cabells & Their Kin, Brown, pp. 154, 156, 265, 593
2. Peggy Dixon, 6/08 & 7/08
3. Virginia Ghosts, Lee, pp. 213-214



Green Hill View from Forkfield 4/02



Forkfield view from Green Hill 4/09

Green Hill



Site of Green Hill



Possible Site of Graveyard at Green Hill



View of Bridge over Tye River from Green Hill

4/09

Green Hill

c. 1886 house built by Madison Dixon – 1880's views



Peggy Dixon

Green Hill

c. 1886 house built by Madison Perry Dixon
1960's views



Peggy Dixon

HAREWOOD

Harewood was built about 1810. It was one-story with a central chimney and had an attic reached from outside stairs. The western part of the attic was raised, a stair hall added and a two-story addition was added in 1855 but not completed until 1875. In 1907 there was another two-story addition.(1)

Harewood was the home of Dr. William Hare, husband of Elizabeth Cabell (1776-1802), daughter of Hannah and Nicholas Cabell. After his wife's death, Dr. Hare moved to this estate. Hannah Carrington Cabell (1751-1817) lived at Harewood after the death of her husband, Col. Nicholas Cabell (1750-1803) to take care of her grandchildren.(2)

John Massey purchased the property in 1872 and it remains in the family. (3)

The property is located near Routes 56 & 151 on Harewood Lane in Nelson County.

Sources:

1. Virginia Department of Historic Resources
2. Cabells & Their Kin, Brown, pp. 169, 284
3. Bennett Saunders, 1/08



2008

Harewood



2008

Harewood



2008

Harewood



2008

INGLEWOOD

Inglewood, located between Norwood and Arrington, was built in 1829 by George Washington Cabell (1802-1869) (1, 3, 4) son of Samuel of Soldier's Joy and grandson of Col. William Cabell, Sr.. It was inherited by his son Patrick Henry Cabell (1837-1907) followed by George Washington Cabell (1873-1943) and his brothers and sisters. Mrs. Caroline Cabell Tucker says the house was named in 1829 by George Washington Cabell's wife, Mary Anne Anthony Cabell, at the time of their marriage.(3)

The original house was an I-house (two-story single-pile, one room on either side of the center passage) with penciled Flemish bond brick. It is considered a transitional house as it was built using both Georgian and Greek Revival influence. The symmetrical rooms would have been painted white with no chair railing or molding. The five-course American bond brickwork below the water table was used between 1820-1860. The first floor windows are 9 over 9 while the second floor windows are 6 over 6 which demonstrated extreme sophistication and made the house façade appear taller and more imposing.(5) The six-paneled broad doors have original iron locks and keys. The house has reeded wooden mantles and four inch pine floors. The Federal hand carved handrail was made from a single piece of walnut.(2, 6)

Not long after Inglewood was built, an addition was added to the back making the house a six-room T-plan home. The original small low porch burned (3) and was replaced by a six-column porch over the front door (as shown in 1938 WPA picture). Later an addition with a two-story bay window was added to the left side of the house.(6)

George Washington Cabell was an attorney and county judge. He held court at Inglewood, in the dining room in cold weather and on the lawn in warm weather. The prisoners being sentenced stood before him on "Judgment Rock".(2)

The house was used as a school from the 1890's until after WW I. Cabell descendants owned the house till 1958.(1)

The Mogle's who bought the house in 1958 made a number of changes. The six-column porch was replaced by a two-story columned brick portico. Crown molding was added to plain rooms. Modern heating & plumbing were also added.(2)

Inglewood is located 2 ½ miles northwest of Norwood on Route 655.

Sources:

1. Nelson Co. Historical Society Home Tour Brochure, 5/22/93
4. Old Virginia Houses, The Piedmont, Farrar, p. 96
5. Article & reminiscences by Mrs. Boyd Tucker (Caroline Cabell Tucker) and notes, 8/1/09
4. The Daily Progress, 5/7/72
5. K. Edward Lay, notes 6/27/09
6. WPA 1938 Report, Library of Virginia

Inglewood



WPA 1938, Courtesy of the Library of Virginia



Dietrich

Inglewood



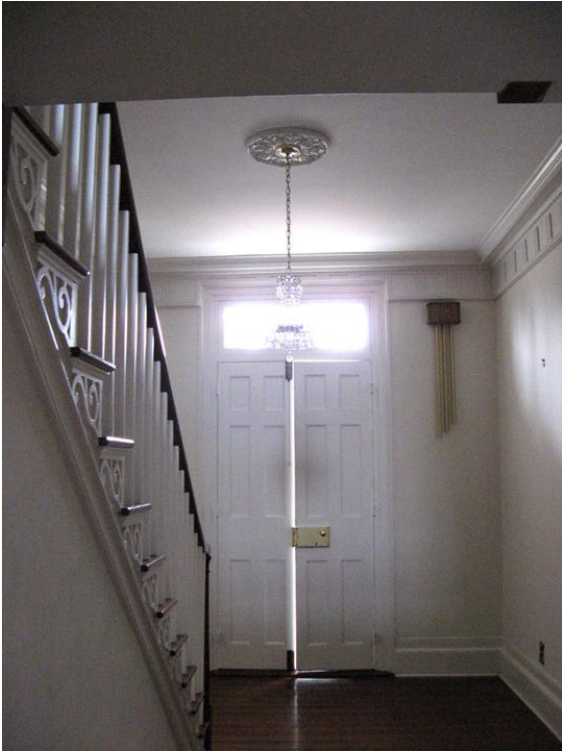
10/02

Inglewood



Judgment Rock

Inglewood



Inglewood



Inglewood



3/09

Inglewood



3/09

LIBERTY HALL

Dr. William Cabell (1699-1774) moved his family from Licking Hole Creek in Goochland County to the present day Nelson County in 1742 and settled near Swan Creek. Although not his original residence, Cabell built a home on Swan Creek.(1) He named this area and named his home Swan Creek Plantation. He constructed buildings, including a mill (on Rucker's Run) and warehouses and built one home then a second home closer to the river. The original house was a 1 ½ story frame home with 2 rooms and a passage on each level.(2) The home was built with timber from the property and wrought nails made on the place.(1) Later in life, Dr. Cabell put the house on wheels and rolled it up the hill. Robert A. Lancaster says that Nathaniel Francis Cabell moved the house in 1837 to the site of the earliest home of Dr. William Cabell.

Nicholas Cabell (1750-1803), the youngest son, inherited Swan Creek Plantation upon Dr. William Cabell's death. In 1774, Nicholas raised the roof and made the house a full two stories and widened the main part of the house to encompass eight rooms instead of four. During the American Revolution, the name was changed to Liberty Hall, showing their patriotism. In 1790 a two story addition was added on the west side and connected to the main house with a closed passage.(2)

Upon Nicholas' death, Liberty Hall was inherited by his son, Nicholas Cabell, Jr. (1780-1809) who died six years later. The home passed to his son, Nathaniel Francis Cabell (1807-1891). Nathaniel tore down most of the house, saving only the 1790 addition to which he added several times. In 1836-7, he built an east wing & passage. In 1839, a smaller room at the end was added and in 1843 a passage and chamber was built on the south. He also changed the approach from the south to the north necessitating the relocation of the offices.(2) N. F. Cabell lived at Liberty Hall until a few years before his death in 1891.

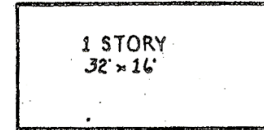
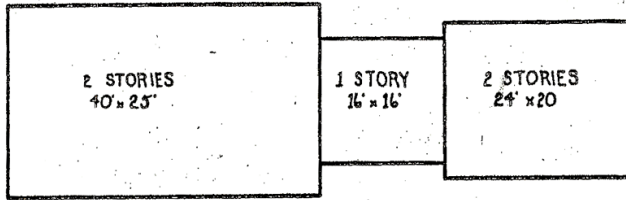
The house burned in 1895.(3)

The site of Liberty Hall is three miles east of Route 56 on Rt. 626. A few yards from where the house stood is the cemetery. There is a monument and slabs marking the graves of Dr. William Cabell, his wife Elizabeth Burks, Nicholas and his wife Hannah Carrington, Nicholas, Jr., and other Cabells.(5)

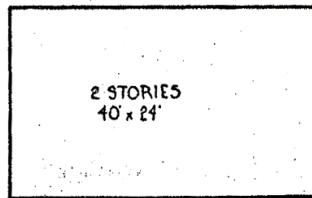
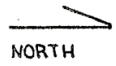
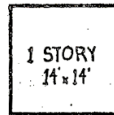
Sources:

1. Historic Virginia Homes & Churches, Robert A. Lancaster, Jr., p. 198
2. Cabell Family Record, Elizabeth Cabell Guy Richardson
3. *Nelson County Times*, Claiborne, p. 16
4. History of Nelson County, Home Demonstration Clubs
5. Cemetery sheet from Nelson Co. Library

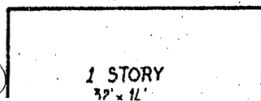
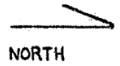
Liberty Hall



LIBERTY HALL 1803



LIBERTY HALL 1816
AS ALTERED



K

Merkal

Liberty Hall



Robert A. Lancaster



Site

2004

Liberty Hall



Liberty Hall



Bob Self

MIDWAY

“Little has been found regarding Midway, William H. Cabell’s farm where he lived from 1801-1809/10. The property was part of Dr. William Cabell’s original holdings, which were turned over to his son Nicholas along with Dr. Cabell’s home Swan Creek/Liberty Hall. Nicholas in May 1799 gave his son William H. Cabell 800 acres of this property which became Midway.

When William H. Cabell married Elizabeth in 1795, the couple had first lived with her parents, Col. and Mrs. William Cabell II at Union Hill. But in January 1801, William H. and his wife moved to “my own house at Midway”. Unfortunately, Elizabeth died the following November.

In 1805, William married Agnes Sarah Bell Gamble, and they resided at Midway when Cabell was not in Richmond serving in the government.

In 1809 or 1810, Governor William H. Cabell moved directly across the James River to Repton/Montevideo, which he had purchased from his first cousin Joseph Cabell. When William found himself in financial straits after standing security for a friend who went bankrupt, he found it necessary to sell both Montevideo and Midway. The latter was apparently bought by his brother Joseph C. Cabell in 1823.

Joseph never lived at Midway, and upon dying childless in 1856, he left the farm to William H.’s son, Dr. John Grattan Cabell. Grattan immediately moved from Richmond to Midway, but after several years, he sold it and returned to Richmond.

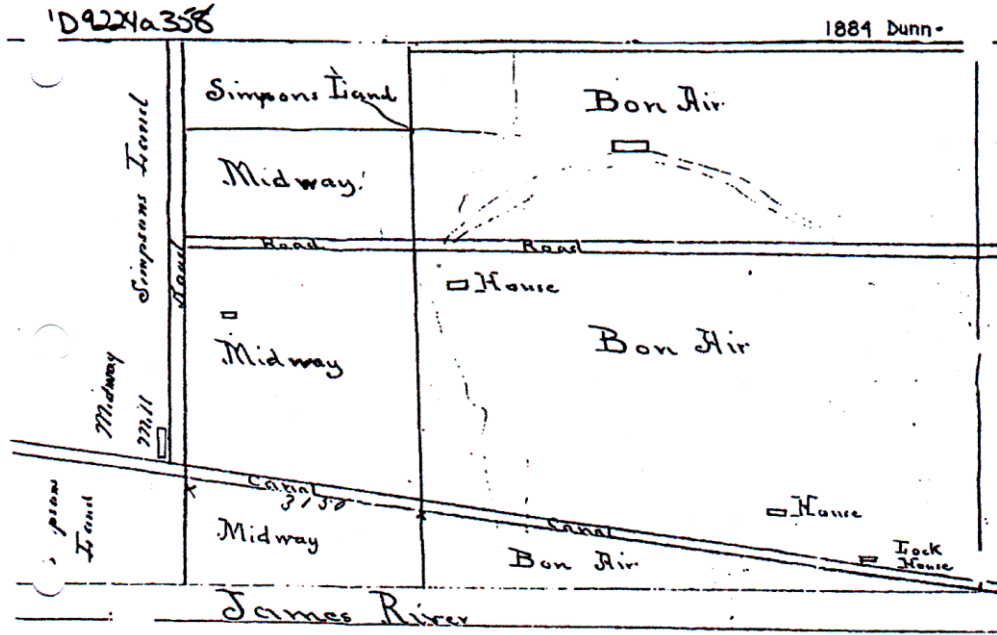
Nicholas Cabell, Sr.’s grandson, Nathaniel Francis Cabell, wrote that most of Nicholas’s papers were burnt at Midway House. However, no description of the house has been found so far, nor the date it was built or when it burned.”

Midway was located around Routes 626 and 743.

Source:

Cabell Family Records, Elizabeth Cabell Guy Richardson

Midway



1997

SIMPSON HOUSE

Located across Goose Creek from the site of Midway Mill, stands the Simpson House. (Some people refer to this house as Midway, but it was not Midway.) The frame house with a gable roof is built on a stone foundation and has three chimneys. A plain transom light is over the entrance and there are sidelights beside the four-paneled door. The one-story porch has plain square columns with a baluster around the porch. The house consists of 10 rooms plus four rooms in the cellar.(1)

Although the WPA Report says they house was built about 1738, this is unlikely. Cliff Wood believes William H. Cabell most likely built it as the miller's house for Midway Mill. The first mill was built in 1787 and the second mill was built in 1830.

In 1937, Emma Simpson Robinson (1880-1963) resided at the Simpson House. She was the widow of C. Cabell Robinson, who was the great, great grandson of John Cabell. They had lived at Colleton and both Emma and Cabell Robinson are buried at Soldier's Joy.

To locate the Simpson House, proceed one mile northeast from Wingina on Route 626 and 0.07 mile east on Route 743.

Sources:

1. WPA Report, Library of Virginia
2. Cliff Wood



11/02

Simpson House



Gear from mill wheel

11/02

MIDWAY MILL

Midway Mill was situated midway between Richmond and Lynchburg along the James River & Kanawha Canal on Mayo's Creek. It was originally owned by William H. Cabell (1772-1853). It was a late 18th century 4 ½ story stone building (1) supposedly built by Italian shipbuilders.(2) The original mill was built in 1787 powered by water from Goose Creek. The original frame mill was replaced with the a 4 story stone structure in 1830. The mill's stone foundation walls were 42 inches thick. A brick archway was constructed to funnel water from the Kanawha Canal to the mill. A small community developed around the mill which remained in operation until 1925 (2).

The mill was demolished in 2001. It was located about ½ mile off Route 626 on Route 743.

Sources:

1. Virginia Landmarks Register, 1976 edition, p. 129
2. Virginia Landmarks Register, 1987 edition, p. 280
3. Under the Blue Ledge, Pollard, p. 196

Midway Mill



Dietrich

Midway Mill



VA Dept. of Historic Resources

Midway Mill



Midway Mill



1997

Midway Mill



1997

Midway Mill



1997

Midway Mill



Midway Mill site after 2001 demolition

3/04

MONTEVIDEO/REPTON

“The site of Montevideo is located on the James River about 9 miles northwest of Buckingham Courthouse. (From the Courthouse, take Route 60 west, Route 56 northwest, then Route 604 (or 602 or 601) north, and it should be on the east side of the road.)

Joseph Cabell, Jr. (1762-1831), son of Joseph and grandson of Dr. William Cabell, is said to have built the original house in 1785 and named it Repton. A W.P.A. form in the 1930's said that it was supposed to have been ‘a lovely home...one of the finest in the country’ with numerous glass windows on the side overlooking the river.

In 1809, Joseph decided to migrate to Kentucky, and sold Repton to his cousin Gov. William H. Cabell. The latter changed the name to Montevideo because of its beautiful view.

In Mutual Assurance Policies of 1809 and 1812, the dwelling house stood just south of the James River, and was described as a two-story wooden home with large porch facing north toward the river, another with a balcony on the southern side of the house, and a smaller one on the west side. It was 45 x 54 feet with a wood (shingle) roof and a brick cellar throughout. Outbuildings, none of which stood within 30 feet of the house, included a 38x38 ft one-story wooden barn with sheds on both ends.

It was here at Montevideo that Gov. Cabell's daughter Louisa Elizabeth, married Henry Carrington in May 1820. In 1822, Gov. Cabell moved to Richmond.

The story of how Montevideo passed to its new owner varies. One tale says that Major Charles Yancey (who owned adjoining property on the east) won the estate from Gov. Cabell in a card game, and gave it to his daughter Mrs. Charles Morris (see Traveller's Rest). But probably a more reliable account is that of Bessie Dunlop, Gov. Cabell's great granddaughter. In writing of her grandfather Henry Carrington, who married Gov. Cabell's daughter and with whom Mrs. Dunlop grew up, she says that after ‘Cabell's failure when Montevideo, his home, was put up for sale... (Carrington), when running up the bidding was astonished when it was knocked down to him. It was a serious blow. He had to sell it at a loss and to assume debt which the closely following Civil War prevented his diminishing. This burden he carried the rest of his life.’ This obligation must have contributed significantly to the debt which necessitated selling Henry Carrington's home, Ingleside (Charlotte County) after his death.

Another tale tells how Montevideo came to be destroyed by fire during the Civil War. ‘Mr. Morris found one of the colored boys asleep while minding the cows and tied him to a board, as punishment. The child's mother who was a slave and maid in the house, to retaliate started a fire in one of the bureau drawers, which destroyed the whole house. The colored boy grew up and was a well known colored preacher in the county for many years.’”(1)

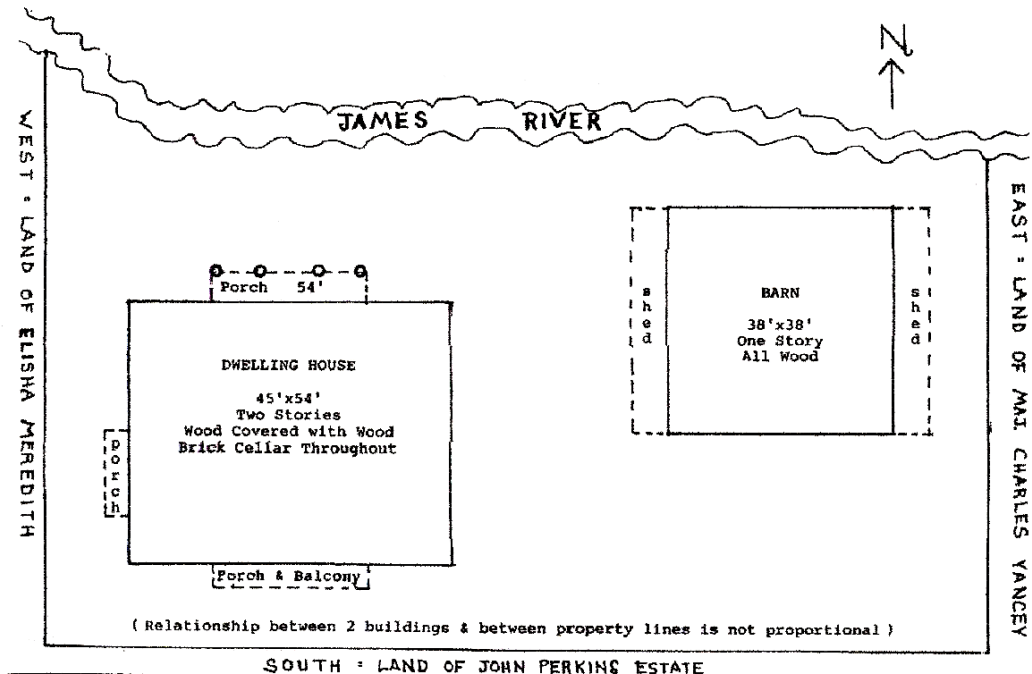
After the fire, the family moved into the overseer's house, which was still occupied by descendants of the Morrisses when it burned around 1940.(1,2)

Located in an area formerly known as Hardwickville, near the intersection of Routes 604 & 749, Montevideo means “mountain view”. In 1783, Joseph Cabell, Jr. (also known as Repton Joe) married Pocahontas Rebecca Bolling (1765-1803) of Chellowe in Buckingham County.(2)

According to Mr. Wood, there was a log cabin on each side of the house along with other buildings on the property. There were two wells lined with round rock about eight inches in diameter. After the house burned, “glass, marble and brick were cleaned up and hauled to the nearby woods.”(2)

Sources:

1. Cabell Family Records, Elizabeth Cabell Guy Richardson
2. Notes from Roland Carter Wood, Jr., 1966



| | Wm. H. Cabell=mortgager | Jos. Cabell=mortgagee | Dwelling | Mutual Assurance |
|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------|-------------------------|
| 1809: Repton | living in Richmond | | \$3333 | #354 - Reel 5, Vol. 47 |
| 1812: Montevideo | living at Montevideo | | \$10,000 | #1306 - Reel 4, Vol. 42 |



Overseer's House 1936

Elizabeth Cabell Guy Richardson

Montevideo



MONTEZUMA/SPRING HILL

Located near Norwood, Montezuma was built around 1790 by Col. William Cabell (1730-1798). (2, 6, 7) The home was originally named Spring Hill due to the many springs on the property (7) but the name was changed to Montezuma as it was built over an Indian burial ground.(2)

The Piedmont Virginia Federal house, built in Flemish bond, is a two-story home with a 1½-story wing capped by a gable roof. The gable roof on the 1½ story wing has a half-gable dormer to provide light for the rear stair hall. The windows have nine over nine sashes and it has four interior end chimneys. There is a Roman Revival dwarf portico (9) and the Cross of Lorraine doors have original iron locks.(8) Victorian wooden window hoods have been added to the exterior.(9) Both the exterior and the interior of Montezuma exhibit strong Jeffersonian influence. “Because of his friendship with the Cabell family, Thomas Jefferson is often associated with the design of Montezuma.”(9)

The first floor of the sophisticated interior of the main house has four rooms with a short passage. There are two side passage staircases. “The house retains all of its fine woodwork, including mantles, doors and built-in cupboards in several locations. Much of the woodwork has never been re-painted and still exhibits the original painted ‘graining’ in many locations. Graining is the art of painting ordinary woods, like pine or tulip poplar to resemble more desirable species of wood.”(10) “Montezuma has at least three different motifs: in one area several of the doors are painted to look like tiger maple with birds-eye maple panels; in another location, a wonderful little library, the doors, cupboards and wainscot are done to imitate panel-work made of plain and quarter-sawn oak. Lastly is an odd little room of the rear entrance, now converted to a bathroom, in which the doors and a large built-in cupboard are painted to look like figured mahogany.”(10) The southeast room, which was probably the dining room, has the finest woodwork. “A pair of arched openings flank the mantel; one is a deep cabinet with glazed doors above and solid doors below, while the other marks the entrance into the wing. This arched entrance is notable for the cabinets and drawers found to the side of the pilasters which form part of the architrave. The arch’s intrados, like the pilasters on which it rests, is reeded. The molded keystones and gougework further enrich the arches.”(9)

The first-floor mantels are simple while the second-floor mantels are more elaborate “embellished with reeded pilasters and panels, swags and frets.”(9) The southeast bedroom has crosset molding on the mantel and wall of troy molding is found on the mantel in the northwest bedroom.(11)

Although it is said that Col. William Cabell built Montezuma for his son Hector (1768-1807), his son Landon (1765-1834) was living at Montezuma in 1794 prior to moving to Nassau Plantation. Hector and his wife Paulina, daughter of John Cabell (see Forkfield) resided at Montezuma from at least 1798 until his death in 1807. Since Hector died without heirs, the property was inherited by his surviving brothers.(9) In 1813 Landon Cabell sold Montezuma to Thomas S. McClelland.(9) His wife, Margaret Cabell McClelland (1785-1863), daughter

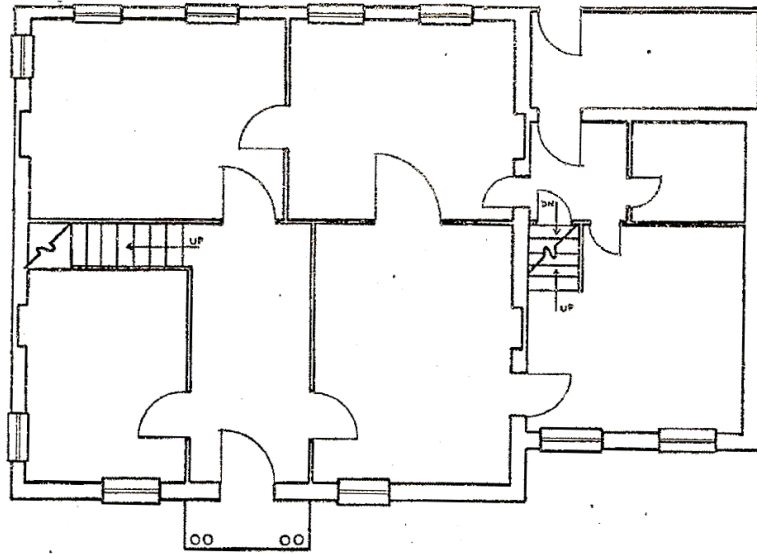
of Col. William Cabell, Jr. (1759-1822), lived there till her death. After Margaret McClelland's death, it was sold at public auction to the Hubards whose son William married Elizabeth Cabell Callaway, granddaughter of Anne Carrington and Col. William Cabell, Jr. The Somervilles, descendants of Col. William Cabell, acquired the property in the 1920's(2) and retained ownership until 2009.

The house is about ½ mile east of Norwood or two miles from Union Hill on Route 626.

Sources:

1. 20th Century Cabells & Their Kin, Cabell
2. Tuckahoes & Cohees, Seaman, p. 321
3. Daily Progress, 5/72 & 5/80
4. Untitled article from Nelson Co. Library
5. The Cabell's & Their Kin, Brown p. 232, 235, 370-2
6. Nelson County Times, 5/22/80
7. Under The Blue Ledge, Pollard, P. 197
8. Old Virginia Houses, The Piedmont, Farrar, p. 95
9. Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources
10. Robert Self article, The Cabell Family Newsletter, March, 2008
11. K. Edward Lay, notes of 6/27/09

Montezuma



MONTEZUMA 1794

KM
Merkal



Robert A. Lancaster

Bob Self

Montezuma



Dietrich



VA Dept. of Historic Resources

Montezuma



11/02

Montezuma



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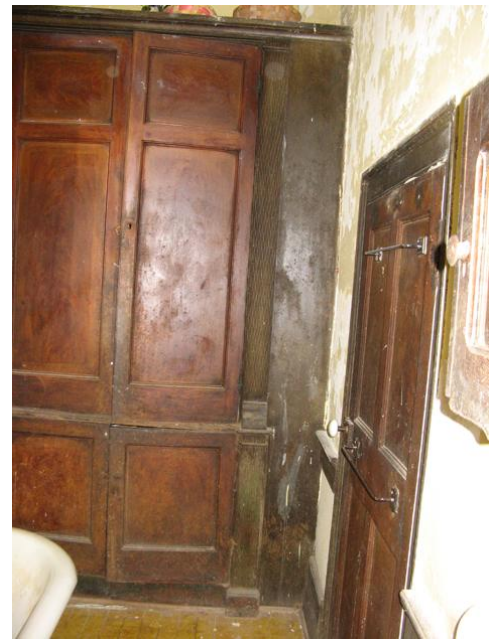
6/09

Montezuma



11/02

Montezuma



Montezuma



2008

Montezuma



2008

Montezuma



2008

Montezuma



Montezuma

Back Stairs



2008

Montezuma



2008 & 2009

Montezuma



2008

MOUNTAIN RETREAT

Mountain Retreat was the Nelson County home of John Horsley (died 1850) & Mary Mildred Cabell (1802-1880). He was the son of Charles Yancey Horsley & Margaret Harris; grandson of John Horsley & Mary Chambers Yancey; great grandson of John Horsley & Fanny Starke; great great grandson of John Horsley & Mary Cabell. Mary Mildred Cabell was born at Soldier's Joy & was the daughter of Frederick Cabell & Alice Winston and granddaughter of John Cabell.(1) Frederick Cabell gave the property to his daughter in 1836.(2, 3)

The 1936 WPA Report says Mountain Retreat was built prior to 1836 but the 1938 Report says it was built about 1842. It was a frame two-story house with a gable roof and stone chimneys at each end. There was a one-story porch. The 10 room house had six-panel doors and carved mantels.(2)

The house, which is no longer in existence (4), was located two miles south of Lovingston off Route 652.(2)

Sources:

1. Cabells & Their Kin, Brown, pp. 302, 312, 419
2. WPA Report, 1938, Library of Virginia
3. WPA Report, 1936, Library of Virginia
4. Callie Tucker, notes 8/1/09