

PH0503011

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED AUG 22 1977

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Belmont

AND/OR COMMON

Belmont

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1.8 miles N of Ashburn; 1.8 miles SW of Potomac River; .4 mile SW of State Route 7; .6 mile W of intersection of State Route 7 and State Route 641.

CITY, TOWN

Ashburn

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

X VICINITY OF

Tenth (Joseph L. Fisher)

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

Loudoun

CODE

107

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

___DISTRICT

___PUBLIC

___OCCUPIED

___AGRICULTURE

___MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

X PRIVATE

X UNOCCUPIED

___COMMERCIAL

___PARK

___STRUCTURE

___BOTH

___WORK IN PROGRESS

___EDUCATIONAL

___PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

___ENTERTAINMENT

___RELIGIOUS

___OBJECT

___IN PROCESS

___YES: RESTRICTED

___GOVERNMENT

___SCIENTIFIC

___BEING CONSIDERED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___INDUSTRIAL

___TRANSPORTATION

X NO

___MILITARY

X OTHER: None

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

International Business Machines Corporation

c/o

Mr. Arnold K. Jones
Vice President
Plans and Controls, Real Estate
and Construction Division

STREET & NUMBER

1000 Westchester Avenue

CITY, TOWN

White Plains

VICINITY OF

New York

STATE

10604

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Loudoun County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Leesburg

Virginia

STATE

22075

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

(2) (See Continuation Sheet #1)

TITLE

(1) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE

1959

X FEDERAL

___STATE

___COUNTY

___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D. C.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 6 PAGE 1

#6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey
1968, 1974, 1975 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

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 checked="" 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 main house at Belmont is an architecturally sophisticated five-part Federal mansion with notably handsome proportions and detailing. The house is in a good state of preservation, and except for modifications made during a 1907 remodeling and modernization, the building remains essentially unchanged from its original appearance. The dominant feature of the composition is the center section, a five-bay, two-story structure some fifty-seven feet in length. It is covered by a gable roof with modillion cornices and interior end chimneys. The center bay is treated as a relatively wide pedimented pavilion. The openings in the pavilion consist of a lunette in the pediment; a fine Palladian window on the second floor, with stone lintels and intersecting tracery; and a double doorway on the first floor flanked by sidelights and topped by an exceptionally large fanlight. Sheltering the entrance is a refined tetrastyle portico with fluted Doric columns, modillion cornice, and a frieze ornamented with alternating geometric patterns. The rest of the facade openings have six-over-six sash and are topped by stone lintels with keystones.

Flanking the center section are three-bay hyphens with round-arch windows containing intersecting tracery. The hyphens originally had flat roofs but were given gable roofs during the 1907 remodeling. Connected to the hyphens are three-bay, gable-roofed terminal wings. Each of these wings originally had four bays, but during the 1907 remodeling, the center two bays were incorporated into the present single-bay pavilion topped by an open-tympanum pediment. The wings' concrete lintels were also added then; the original lintels were brick. The 1907 remodeling further included the conversion of the kitchen wing to the west into a guest suite and the office and schoolroom wing on the east into a library.

All the principal walls of the house are laid in exceptionally handsome Flemish bond with narrow tooled joints. The brickwork survives in an excellent state of preservation. The present roof covering throughout is slate. Old photographs show a standing-seam metal roof; the original covering was wood shingles.

The center section of the house was originally built with a T plan, the rear wing measuring 44' X 25'. This wing was removed in 1907, except for the portion containing the stair hall, and was replaced by a wing the approximate width of the facade. As a result of this remodeling, the new dining room, located behind the stair hall, is flanked by a "living porch" on the east and by a kitchen and service areas on the west. The whole is topped by a hipped roof with dormers, except for the center two bays of the rear, or south, wall which are incorporated into a shallow pavilion topped by an open-tympanum pediment.

The interior of the front portion of the center section remains essentially unchanged. The first floor consists of a wide center hall with two large reception rooms on either side. At the end of the hall is a wide elliptical arch supported on fluted Doric piers which frame the stair. The stair ascends against the hall's south wall, perpendicular to the center hall. The doorways leading from the hall to the reception rooms are elegantly treated. Each is topped by a dentiled cornice and deep frieze containing a delicate beaded festoon. On the projecting blocks at either end of the frieze are beaded ovals framing foliated medallions. The hall, like the rooms to either side, is ornamented with a pedestal-type, paneled wainscot. (See Continuation Sheet #2)

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CONTINUATION SHEET # 2

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

#7. DESCRIPTION

The outstanding feature of the reception rooms is the elaborate mantel in each. There is a persistent tradition that the mantels were given by Lafayette when he visited Belmont in 1825. Stylistically, however, the mantels belong to the period of the house's construction date, and they appear to be no more than better-than-average Adam-style mantels as one would expect to find in a house of quality. The east mantel, the more elaborate of the two, contains a central panel with the profile of a Classical male in relief, framed by garlands of foliage. Flanking it in the frieze are swags of drapery tied with bows. The mantel's supporting pilasters and the sections of entablature above are decorated with urns, foliated medallions, and straight stalks of foliage growing out of urns. The mantel in the west room contains a central panel ornamented with a swag of flowers overlaid by an ornamental urn. On either side of the panel are delicate festoons of flowers. Supporting the entablature are stop-fluted Doric columns, and in the frieze above each column is a perched eagle in relief.

Belmont's stair has a molded handrail and thin, square balusters, three to a step. At the end of each step is a scrolled bracket. Upstairs, the center hall has been made into a large, somewhat elegant bathroom. The principal bedrooms on either side have simple but well-proportioned Federal woodwork. The rest of the second-floor rooms date from the 1907 restoration.

The house is located in a spacious park dotted with large trees and shrubbery. It is sited near the edge of a gentle ridge overlooking the Potomac Valley to the east. At the foot of the ridge, but a comfortable distance from the house, is the old Leesburg Turnpike (Route 7). The house is approached by a tree-lined drive coming up from the highway in an impressive sweeping curve. Behind the house are broad, level fields. Of the early outbuildings, a stone smokehouse survives; numerous modern farm buildings are located to the west of the house. Near the farm buildings is a walled cemetery containing the grave of Ludwell Lee.

CL

The seventy-acre tract on which Belmont is set is the last surviving intact parcel of the land originally inherited by Ludwell Lee through his first wife.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES
1799 - 1802

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Belmont, the splendid northern Virginia estate established by the Lee family, is significant for its architecturally outstanding residence and for the several noted people who have lived there. Historically the estate symbolizes the late eighteenth-century resettlement of many of Virginia's prominent Tidewater families in the more fertile northern and western areas of the state.

Belmont's elegant house was erected 1799-1802 by Ludwell Lee (1760-1836), son of Richard Henry Lee, signer of the Declaration of Independence. Although practically unknown to most architectural scholars, the house is one of the most refined expressions of Federal-style plantation architecture in the Middle Atlantic region. Laid out in the popular five-part plan, it is architecturally akin to such notable houses as Woodlawn, Dumbarton House in Washington, D. C., and the mansions of Annapolis. The sure handling of its proportions and the beautiful craftsmanship of its details indicate the involvement of an architect and craftsmen of talent. Unfortunately no names have yet been associated with either the design or construction. It seems likely, however, that the builders worked in the Alexandria area, since Belmont's ornamentation and masonry details are similar to examples on many Federal-period houses in the old port city.

The house's first owner, Ludwell Lee, was born on his father's plantation, Chantilly in Westmoreland County. He acquired the Belmont property through his first wife (and first cousin), Flora Lee, who inherited the land through their common grandfather, Thomas Lee of Stratford. Thomas Lee had patented the Belmont tract in 1728.

Ludwell Lee served as aide-de-camp to General Lafayette during the campaign of 1781. Like most of his kinsmen, he went into public service and became a member of the Virginia General Assembly. However, being a staunch Federalist, his political career passed into oblivion when the Jeffersonian Republicans became the dominant political force in Virginia. Lee thus passed the rest of his life as a prosperous planter and genial host. When Lafayette made his triumphal tour of America in 1825, he was lavishly entertained by his old friend at Belmont.

Following Ludwell Lee's death, Belmont was sold to Miss Margaret Mercer, daughter of a former Maryland governor, who operated a school in the house. The property was acquired from Miss Mercer's heirs in 1851 by George Kephart, who also owned Coton, the plantation of Ludwell Lee's cousin, Thomas Ludwell Lee, located across the Leesburg Turnpike from Belmont. In 1887 Belmont was bought by Frederick M. Staunton, a former governor of Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. John Scott Ferguson of Pittsburgh acquired the place from Mr. Staunton in 1907. They found the house in deteriorated condition and thus engaged the Pittsburgh architect T. Kent Roberts to modernize the building. His work resulted primarily in the enlarging of the rear wing, the remodeling of the

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CONTINUATION SHEET #3

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

#8 SIGNIFICANCE

terminal wings, and the improvement of the physical plant. The success of the project is borne out by the fact that the house has required little major work since.

The next owners of Belmont were Mr. and Mrs. Edward B. McLean, who purchased it in 1915. Mr. McLean was the son of the owner-publisher of the Washington Post. Mrs. McLean (Evelyn Walsh) is best remembered as being an owner of the famous Hope Diamond. During the McLean ownership, Belmont became noted as a fine horse farm. The distinction was short-lived; the Depression caused the horses to be auctioned in 1931, and in the following year, the whole estate was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Hurley. Mr. Hurley had served as Secretary of War during the Hoover administration. The Hurleys sold Belmont and its contents in 1943 to the late George C. Clarke, a Washington, D. C., attorney, who in 1969 sold the estate to the International Business Machines Corporation. Mr. and Mrs. Clarke retained a life interest in the house and a portion of the property, but this interest was given up when the widowed Mrs. Clarke vacated the house in 1974.

CL

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Christian, F. A. and S. W. Massie, eds. Homes and Gardens in Old Virginia. Richmond, Virginia, 1950.
- Slater, Kitty, "Belmont," in Spur of Virginia, Vol. III, No. 4, May 1968.
- Templeman, Eleanor Lee. Virginia Homes of the Lees. Arlington, Virginia, 1973.
- Wayland, John W. Historic Homes of Northern Virginia. Staunton, Virginia, 1937.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 70 Acres E. 18/284520/4327900

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	2,8,4	8,7,0	4,3	2,7	6,6,0	B	1,8	2,8,4	5,4,0	4,3	2,7	1,1,0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING		
C	1,8	2,8,4	1,6,0	4,3	2,7	0,7,0	D	1,8	2,8,4	1,3,0	4,3	2,7	3,6,0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING		

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The 70 acres comprising the Belmont property are bounded by a line beginning at a point on S side of State Route 7, .4 mile NW of intersection of state routes 7 and 641 and approximately 50' E of private drive; thence extending approximately 1,800' SW (paralleling private drive along E side); thence extending approximately 550' SSE (partially along E side of treeline); thence extending approximately 1200' WSW (extending across dirt road); thence extending approximately 950' NNW; thence extending 700' ENE; thence extending approximately 1,800' NNE to S side of State Route 7; thence extending approximately 1,400' SW along S side of said route to point of origin.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

July, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

(804) 786-3143

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE *Julius R. Fishburne, Jr.*, Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE SEP 21 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Property Belmont

State Va.

Working Number 8.22.77.1349

TECHNICAL

Photos 1
Maps 1

CONTROL

OK pl
8.24.77

ESTATE'S HOUSE IS ONE OF THE MOST REFINED EXPRESSIONS OF FEDERAL STYLE PLANTATION ARCHITECTURE FOUND IN MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION. ALSO THE RESIDENCE OF SEVERAL PROMINENT INDIVIDUALS.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN 2

ACCEPT
H. S. 12/14/77

Large amount of acreage - discuss

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

-otherwise accept

Bravham
12.7.77

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

Hold for info - acreage justification
Bravham
2.14.78

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

requested information never received

Relev
Lebach
W/Z/WZ
BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register
Federal Register

[Signature]

Send-back 12.11.78
Re-submit _____

Entered _____

INT:2106-74

Property Belmont

State Va.

Working Number 8.22.77.1349

TECHNICAL

Photos 1
Maps 1

CONTROL

OK pl
8.24.77

ESTATE'S HOUSE IS ONE OF THE MOST REFINED
EXPRESSIONS OF FEDERAL STYLE PLANTATION
ARCHITECTURE FOUND IN MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION.
ALSO THE RESIDENCE OF SEVERAL PROMINENT INDIVIDUALS.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN 2

ACCEPT
H. Gibb 12/14/77

Large amount of acreage -
D. Scum

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

- otherwise
accept

Brabham
12.7.77

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

not justified - acreage

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

requested information never
received

Releas
Leborch
11/21/78
BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry [Signature]

Send-back 12.11.78
Re-submit _____

Entered _____

INT:2106-74

NAME OF PROPERTY BELMONT STATE VIRGINIA

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below. PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE NOMINATION IS RESUBMITTED.

7 Description: _____

8 Statement of Significance: _____

9 Bibliography: _____

10 Geographical Data -- Acreage: PLEASE PROVIDE JUSTIFICATION FOR LARGE
ACREAGE.
UTM Reference(s): _____
Verbal Boundary Description: _____

12 Certification: _____
Photographic Coverage: _____

Map Coverage: _____

Other: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (ABOVE) REQUESTED
2-14-78 HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED.

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to LYNN A. BEEBE
on the National Register staff, telephone 202-343-6401

Thank you for your attention to the above items.
Bill Leborich Jr Date: Dec 11, 1978
Chief, Branch of Registration

INT:2105-74

PH0503011

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Belmont
AND/OR COMMON
Belmont

2 LOCATION

1.8 miles N of Ashburn; 1.8 miles SW of Potomac River; .4 mile SW of State Route 7; .6 mile W of intersection of State Route 7 and State Route 641.

STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Ashburn VICINITY OF Tenth (Joseph L. Fisher) COUNTY Loudoun
STATE Virginia CODE 51 CODE 107

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: None

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME International Business Machines Corporation
STREET & NUMBER 1000 Westchester Avenue
CITY, TOWN White Plains VICINITY OF New York STATE 10604
c/o Mr. Arnold K. Jones
Vice President
Plans and Controls, Real Estate and Construction Division

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Loudoun County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Leesburg STATE 22075

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE (1) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory
DATE 1959
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Library of Congress
CITY, TOWN Washington STATE D. C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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The center section of the house was originally built with a T plan, the rear wing measuring 44' X 25'. This wing was removed in 1907, except for the portion containing the stair hall, and was replaced by a wing the approximate width of the facade. As a result of this remodeling, the new dining room, located behind the stair hall, is flanked by a "living porch" on the east and by a kitchen and service areas on the west. The whole is topped by a hipped roof with dormers, except for the center two bays of the rear, or south, wall which are incorporated into a shallow pavilion topped by an open-tympanum pediment.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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BELMONT, Loudoun County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 6, 7 PAGE 1, 2

#6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey
1968, 1974, 1975 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

7. DESCRIPTION - Justification of Acreage

The boundaries are drawn to include the sweeping vista and long, curved, tree-lined drive from Route 7 to the north. This area, focusing on the house, is treated as an informally planted park and is an important original design element for the estate. The boundaries also include the immediate yard of the house, the family cemetery, and the modern farm buildings to the west.

The boundaries are legally defined in an easement established on the property by I. B. M.

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BELMONT, Loudoun County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET # 2

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

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The house is located in a spacious park dotted with large trees and shrubbery. It is sited near the edge of a gentle ridge overlooking the Potomac Valley to the east. At the foot of the ridge, but a comfortable distance from the house, is the old Leesburg Turnpike (Route 7). The house is approached by a tree-lined drive coming up from the highway in an impressive sweeping curve. Behind the house are broad, level fields. Of the early outbuildings, a stone smokehouse survives; numerous modern farm buildings are located to the west of the house. Near the farm buildings is a walled cemetery containing the grave of Ludwell Lee.

CL

The seventy-acre tract on which Belmont is set is the last surviving intact parcel of the land originally inherited by Ludwell Lee through his first wife.

(see Continuation Sheet #1)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES
1799 - 1802

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Belmont, the splendid northern Virginia estate established by the Lee family, is significant for its architecturally outstanding residence and for the several noted people who have lived there. Historically the estate symbolizes the late eighteenth-century resettlement of many of Virginia's prominent Tidewater families in the more fertile northern and western areas of the state.

Belmont's elegant house was erected 1799-1802 by Ludwell Lee (1760-1836), son of Richard Henry Lee, signer of the Declaration of Independence. Although practically unknown to most architectural scholars, the house is one of the most refined expressions of Federal-style plantation architecture in the Middle Atlantic region. Laid out in the popular five-part plan, it is architecturally akin to such notable houses as Woodlawn, Dumbarton House in Washington, D. C., and the mansions of Annapolis. The sure handling of its proportions and the beautiful craftsmanship of its details indicate the involvement of an architect and craftsmen of talent. Unfortunately no names have yet been associated with either the design or construction. It seems likely, however, that the builders worked in the Alexandria area, since Belmont's ornamentation and masonry details are similar to examples on many Federal-period houses in the old port city.

The house's first owner, Ludwell Lee, was born on his father's plantation, Chantilly in Westmoreland County. He acquired the Belmont property through his first wife (and first cousin), Flora Lee, who inherited the land through their common grandfather, Thomas Lee of Stratford. Thomas Lee had patented the Belmont tract in 1728.

Ludwell Lee served as aide-de-camp to General Lafayette during the campaign of 1781. Like most of his kinsmen, he went into public service and became a member of the Virginia General Assembly. However, being a staunch Federalist, his political career passed into oblivion when the Jeffersonian Republicans became the dominant political force in Virginia. Lee thus passed the rest of his life as a prosperous planter and genial host. When Lafayette made his triumphal tour of America in 1825, he was lavishly entertained by his old friend at Belmont.

Following Ludwell Lee's death, Belmont was sold to Miss Margaret Mercer, daughter of a former Maryland governor, who operated a school in the house. The property was acquired from Miss Mercer's heirs in 1851 by George Kephart, who also owned Coton, the plantation of Ludwell Lee's cousin, Thomas Ludwell Lee, located across the Leesburg Turnpike from Belmont. In 1887 Belmont was bought by Frederick M. Staunton, a former governor of Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. John Scott Ferguson of Pittsburgh acquired the place from Mr. Staunton in 1907. They found the house in deteriorated condition and thus engaged the Pittsburgh architect T. Kent Roberts to modernize the building. His work resulted primarily in the enlarging of the rear wing, the remodeling of the

(See Continuation Sheet #3)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Christian, F. A. and S. W. Massie, eds. Homes and Gardens in Old Virginia. Richmond, Virginia, 1950.
- Slater, Kitty, "Belmont," in Spur of Virginia, Vol. III, No. 4, May 1968.
- Templeman, Eleanor Lee. Virginia Homes of the Lees. Arlington, Virginia, 1973.
- Wayland, John W. Historic Homes of Northern Virginia. Staunton, Virginia, 1937.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 70 Acres E. 18/284520/4327900

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>1,8</u>	<u>2,8,4</u>	<u>8,7,0</u>	<u>4,3</u>	<u>2,7</u>	<u>6,6,0</u>	B	<u>1,8</u>	<u>2,8,4</u>	<u>5,4,0</u>	<u>4,3</u>	<u>2,7</u>	<u>1,1,0</u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING
C	<u>1,8</u>	<u>2,8,4</u>	<u>1,6,0</u>	<u>4,3</u>	<u>2,7</u>	<u>0,7,0</u>	D	<u>1,8</u>	<u>2,8,4</u>	<u>1,3,0</u>	<u>4,3</u>	<u>2,7</u>	<u>3,6,0</u>

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The 70 acres comprising the Belmont property are bounded by a line beginning at a point on S side of State Route 7, .4 mile NW of intersection of state routes 7 and 641 and approximately 50' E of private drive; thence extending approximately 1,800' SW (paralleling private drive along E side); thence extending approximately 550' SSE (partially along E side of treeline); thence extending approximately 1200' WSW (extending across dirt road); thence extending approximately 950' NNW; thence extending 700' ENE; thence extending approximately 1,800' NNE to S side of State Route 7; thence extending approximately 1,400' SW along S side of said route to point of origin.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

July, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

(804) 786-3143

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

RESUBMITTED:

December 3, 1979

TITLE Judius R. Fishburne, Jr., Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE SEP 21 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Carol O'Shull DATE 2-8-80

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: *Anna Jane Slaye*

DATE 2/7/80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Regional Coordinator

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	AUG 22 1977
DATE ENTERED	FEB 8 1980

BELMONT, Loudoun County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #3

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE

1

#8 SIGNIFICANCE

terminal wings, and the improvement of the physical plant. The success of the project is borne out by the fact that the house has required little major work since.

The next owners of Belmont were Mr. and Mrs. Edward B. McLean, who purchased it in 1915. Mr. McLean was the son of the owner-publisher of the Washington Post. Mrs. McLean (Evelyn Walsh) is best remembered as being an owner of the famous Hope Diamond. During the McLean ownership, Belmont became noted as a fine horse farm. The distinction was short-lived; the Depression caused the horses to be auctioned in 1931; and in the following year, the whole estate was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Hurley. Mr. Hurley had served as Secretary of War during the Hoover administration. The Hurleys sold Belmont and its contents in 1943 to the late George C. Clarke, a Washington, D. C., attorney, who in 1969 sold the estate to the International Business Machines Corporation. Mr. and Mrs. Clarke retained a life interest in the house and a portion of the property, but this interest was given up when the widowed Mrs. Clarke vacated the house in 1974.

CL

Property

Belmont

State

VA Choudens

Working Number

8.22.77.1349

80004198

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 1

Maps 1

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

This 2 1/2-story Flemish bond brick plantation house is an outstandingly qualified example of Federal style architecture for this type of domestic structure. Also historically signif. for association of Ludwell Lee, important in social

*Accept
Saxe
2/7/80*

ARCHEOLOGIST

history of Northern Va. during the first qtr. of the 19th C.

Acreage just. was ~~requested~~ on return sheet & has been provided. Justification for 70 ac. based on legally defined easement on property and on characterization of area as "important original

*design element for the estate," including park, long drive, vistas & architectural landscaping.
Nom. notes Adamesque interior features.*

OTHER

HAER

Inventory

Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

*Accept
Saxe 2/7/80*

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

 2-3-81

Send-back

Entered

 FEB 8 1980

Federal Register Entry

Re-submit

REMARK SHEET FOR RESUBMITTED NOMINATIONS TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Below are responses to questions posed on the HCRS Comment Sheet returned on
December 11, 1978 to this office with the following nomination:

Name of Property Belmont Location Loudoun County

7. DESCRIPTION: _____

8. SIGNIFICANCE: Landscape Architecture checked (x)

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY: _____

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA: ACREAGE: Justification of acreage provided on Continuation Sheet #1
as addition to Item 7 DESCRIPTION.

UTM: _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: _____

12. CERTIFICATION: _____

PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE: _____

MAP COVERAGE: _____

OTHER: _____

MEMBERS
MEMBER THOMAS T. CHAMBERS
MR. WILLIAM P. BRYANT, JR., VICE CHAIRMAN
MEMBER EDWIN M. HARRIS
FREDERICK COX, JR., AT-LARGE
DAVID A. HARRISON, III
DONALD HAYNES
MEMBER KENNETH R. HIGGINS
FREDERICK D. NICHOLS
RED W. WALKER



DEC 06 1979

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

TUCKER HILL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

221 GOVERNOR STREET
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219
TELEPHONE (804) 786-3143

December 4, 1979

Mr. Charles A. Herrington
Acting Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
HCRS - Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
440 G. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20243

Dear Mr. Herrington:

Re: National Register of Historic
Places Nominations

The four enclosed reports on the following places are being submitted
in nomination to the National Register of Historic Places:

Alexandria Canal Tide Lock, Alexandria
Belmont, Loudoun County
0-100 Block East Franklin Street Historic District, Richmond
(city)
Wyoming, King William County

The Belmont nomination is being resubmitted, having been adjusted by
the addition of a justification of acreage at the request of your staff.
If further information is necessary, please do not hesitate to let us
know.

Sincerely yours,

Corrine P. Hudgins
Registrar

Enclosures

cc: Alain Outlaw, VRCA

CPH/lm



Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

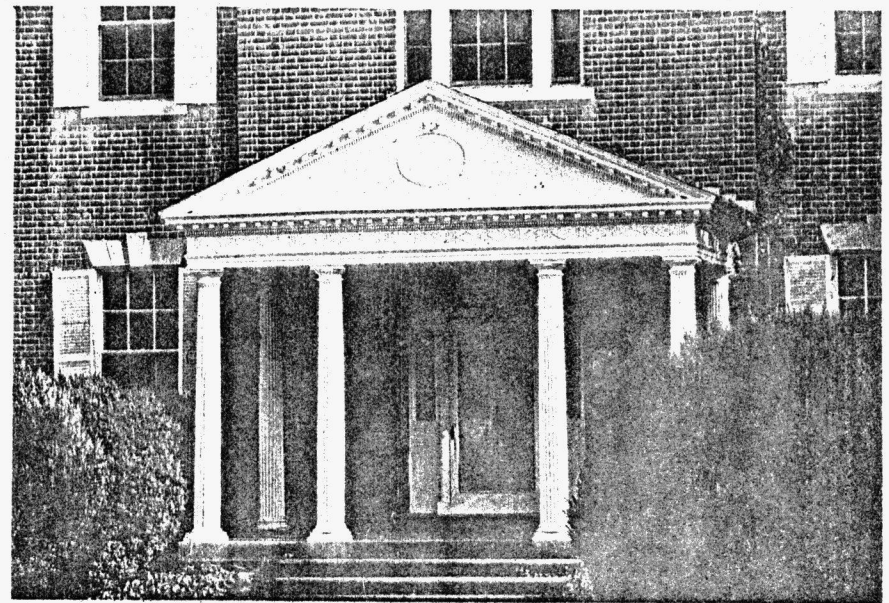
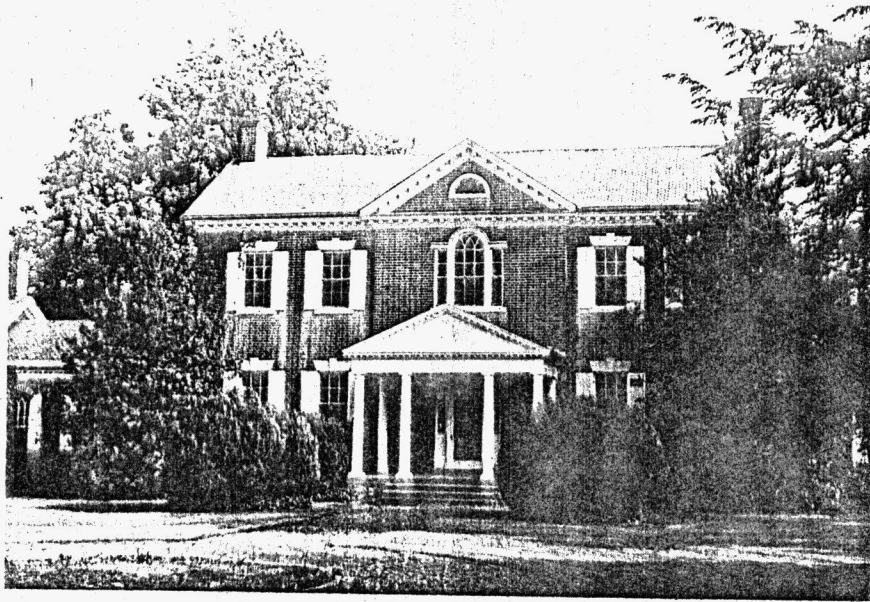
19

BELMONT
Loudoun County, Virginia
1975 Credit: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
Negative Filed: Virginia State Library,
Richmond, Virginia

FEB 8 1980

EXTERIOR VIEW FROM NORTH 1 of 1

AUG 22 1977

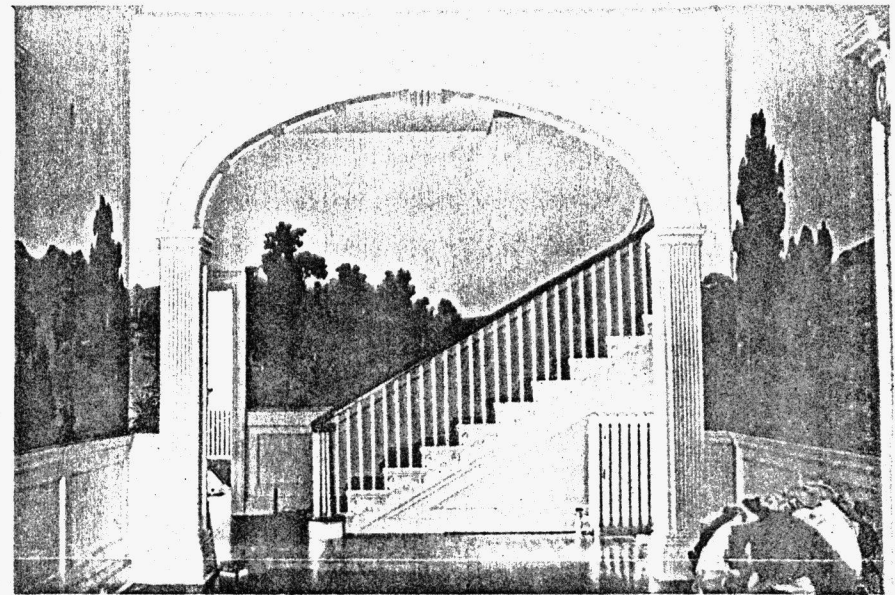
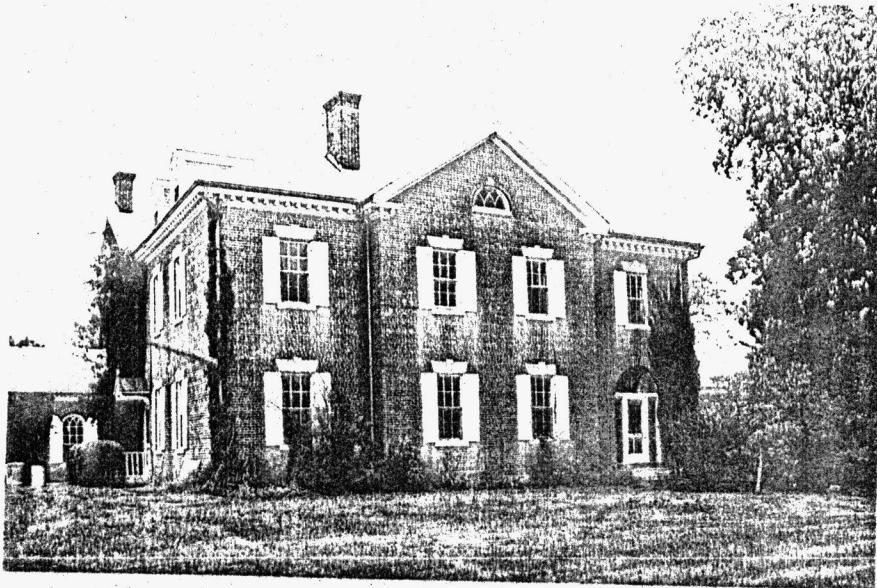


Exterior View from North (front) ▲

Detail of Front Portico ▲

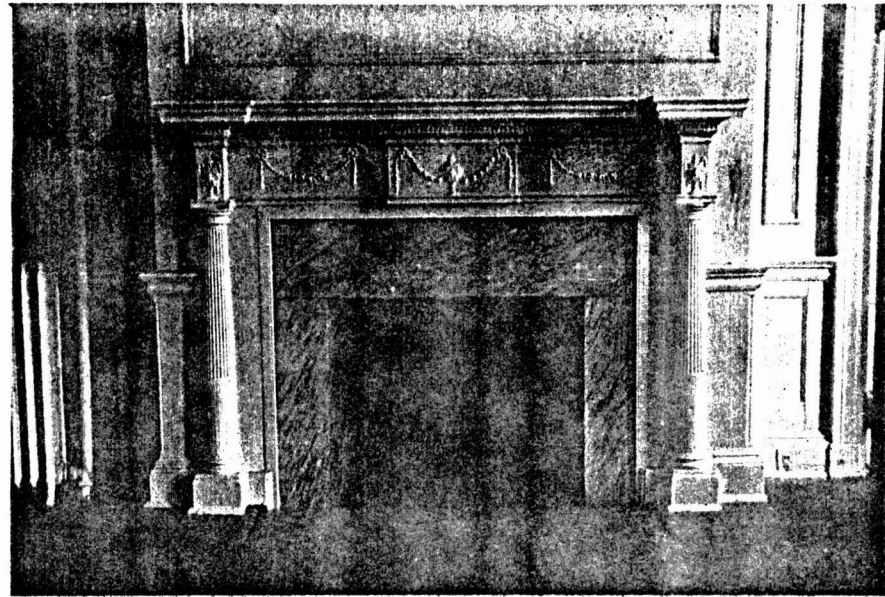
▼ Exterior View from South (rear)

▼ Interior of Stair Hall from Entrance Hall



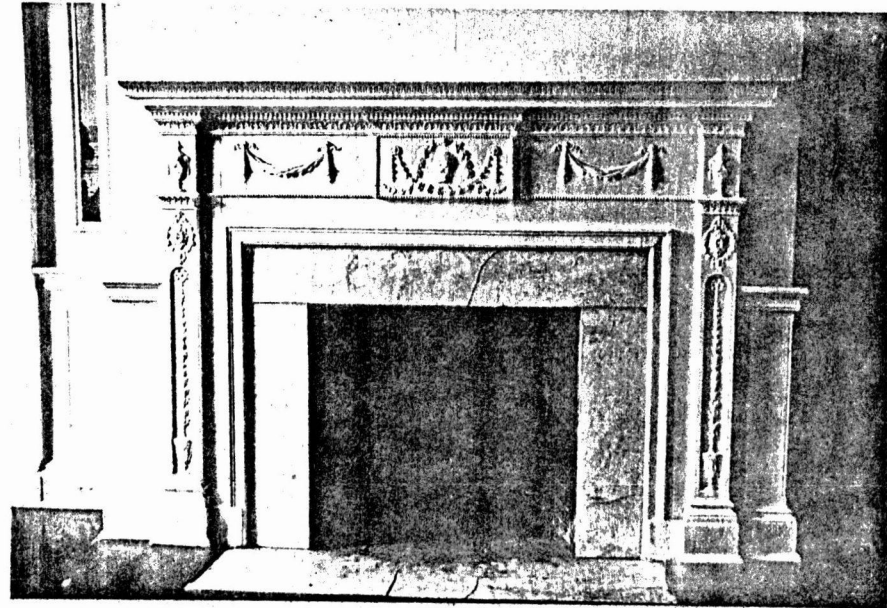


Interior of First-floor Hall, East Door

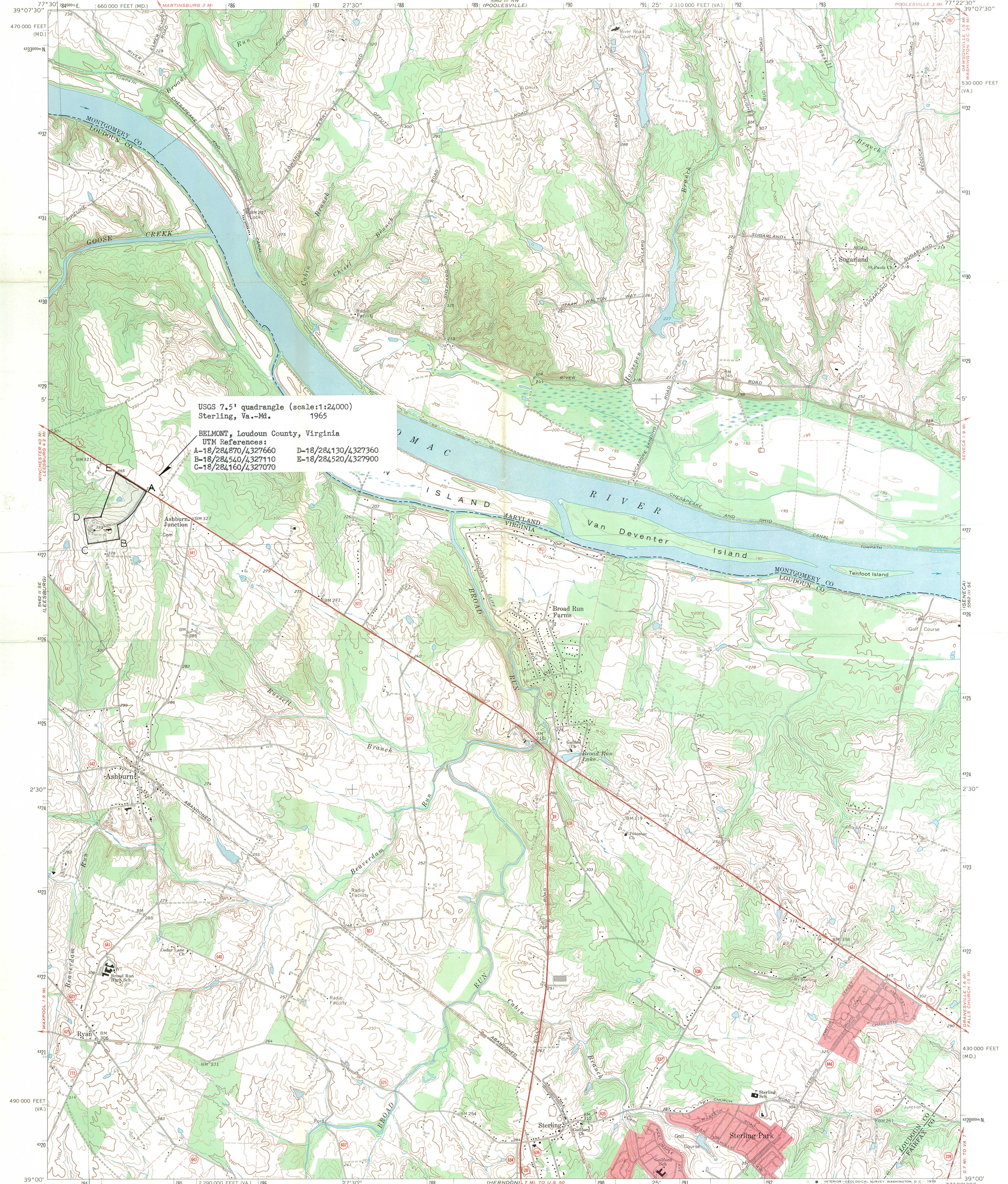


▲ Interior of First-floor North Room, Mantel

▼ Interior of First-floor South Room, Mantel



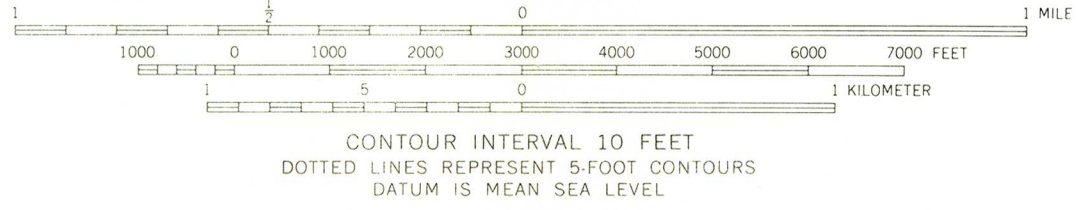
FEB 8 1980



USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24,000)
Sterling, Va.-Md. 1965

BELMONT, Loudoun County, Virginia
UTM References:
A-18/284870/4327660 D-18/284130/4327360
B-18/284540/4327110 E-18/284520/4327900
C-18/284160/4327070

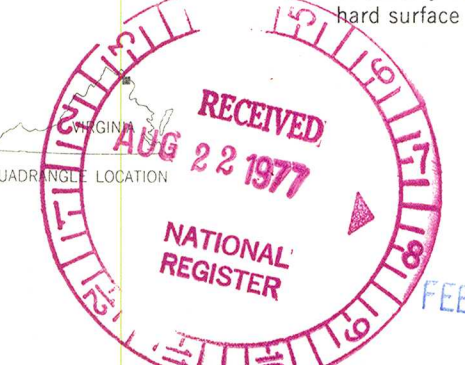
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1963. Field checked 1968
Supersedes Army Map Service map dated 1952
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Virginia coordinate system,
north zone, and Maryland coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
AND VIRGINIA DIVISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
State Route	



STERLING, VA. - MD.
SW/4 SENECA 15' QUADRANGLE
N 3900 - W 7722.5/7.5
1968
AMS 5562 III SW-SERIES V834

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE VIRGINIA

Date Entered FEB 8 1980

Name

Location

Belmont

Ashburn vicinity
Loudoun County

Wyoming

Studley vicinity
King William County

Also Notified

Honorable John W. Warner

Honorable Harry F. Byrd, Jr.
Honorable Joseph L. Fisher
Honorable Paul S. Tribble, Jr.

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Tucker H. Hill
Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

NR Byers/bjr 2/13/80

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

① NAME as it appears on federal register: Belmont
 ② OTHER NAMES:
 ③ date of entry:
 ④ county code: 107

⑤ LOCATION street & number: N of Ashburn
 city / town: Ashburn
 vicinity of: Ashburn
 state: VA
 county: Loudoun
 ⑥ NPS REGION: Mid-Atlantic

⑦ OWNER PRIVATE STATE MUNICIPAL COUNTY MULTIPLE FEDERAL (agency name)
 ⑧ ADMINISTRATOR:

⑨ EXISTING SURVEYS HABS HAER NHL
 ⑩ FUNDED? YES NO
 ⑪ CONGRESS. DISTRICT: 10th
 ⑫ SOURCE of NOMINATION: STATE FEDERAL
 if state who prepared form?

⑬ WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES, NAME: NO
 ⑭ WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES, NAME: NO
 ⑮ ACREAGE: 10
 LOCAL PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

⑯ CONDITION
 excellent good fair
 deteriorated ruins unexposed unexcavated
 altered unaltered reconstructed excavated
 original site moved unknown

⑰ features:
 INTERIOR: SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-4 NOT APPLICABLE-7
 EXTERIOR: SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-5 NOT APPLICABLE-8
 ENVIRONS: SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-6 NOT APPLICABLE-9

⑱ ACCESS YES - Restricted YES - Unrestricted No Access Unknown
 ⑲ ADAPTIVE USE YES NO
 ⑳ SAVED? YES
 IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? yes no

㉑ AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:
 ARCHEOLOGY - prehistoric-2 ARCHEOLOGY - historic-1 AGRICULTURE-3 ARCHITECTURE-4 ART-5
 COMMERCE-6 COMMUNICATIONS-7 CONSERVATION-8 ECONOMICS-9 EDUCATION-10
 ENGINEERING-11 ENTERTAINMENT-26 EXPLORATION-12 HEALTH-27 INDUSTRY-13 INVENTION-14
 LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 LAW-16 LITERATURE-17 MILITARY-18 MUSIC-19 PHILOSOPHY-20
 POLITICS / GOVT.-21 RELIGION-22 SCIENCE-23 SOCIAL / HUMANITARIAN-24 SOCIAL / CULTURAL-30
 RECREATION-28 SETTLEMENT-29 URBAN PLANNING-31 OTHER (SPECIFY) _____
 TRANSPORTATION-25

㉒ CLAIMS: explain
 'first'
 'oldest'
 'only'

㉓ functions
 WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT:
 CURRENTLY:
 ㉔ dates of initial construction:
 major alterations:
 historic events:
 ㉕ ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION

㉖ architectural style(s):
 ㉗ architect:
 ㉘ master builder:
 ㉙ engineer:

㉚ landscape architect / garden designer:
 ㉛ interior decorator:
 ㉜ artist:
 ㉝ artisan:
 ㉞ builder/contractor:

㉟ NAMES give role & date
 PERSONAL:
 EVENTS:
 INSTITUTIONAL:

㊱ NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP