

(Within Washington Valley Historic District)

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

1977

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: **Locust Hill**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **Southeast side of Butler Road**

CITY OR TOWN: **Glyndon**

STATE: **Maryland** COUNTY: **Baltimore**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PUBLIC: <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both			
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **Thomas Offutt**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Locust Hill**

CITY OR TOWN: **Glyndon** STATE: **Maryland**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Baltimore County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Washington Avenue**

CITY OR TOWN: **Towson** STATE: **Maryland**

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): **4852/588**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: **Baltimore County Landmarks**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1971** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **Baltimore County Historical Society**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Cockeysville** STATE: **Maryland**

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

LOCUST HILL is a stone house, stuccoed and scored in imitation of ashlar, built in four aligned gable roofed sections facing north and south, on ground which slopes slightly to the south. The basic forms, approximate sizes and approximate dates (conjectured upon analysis) of each section are as follows, from west to east:

- I. 2 storeys, three bays, 22 by 35½ feet, ca. 1785-1800
- II. 2 storeys, two bays, 22 by 20 feet, ca. 1820-1840
- III. 1½ storeys, two bays, 22 by 20 feet, ca. 1820-1840
(possibly earlier)
- IV. 1 storey, one bay, 16 by 11 feet, after Section III

Section I corresponds to the structure recorded on this property in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax records. ("1 stone dwelling, 2 storeys, 36 by 22 feet"). The 20 by 16 foot kitchen does not correspond with the existing kitchen wing, nor does the 12 by 12 foot smokehouse.

Sections I and II comprise the main portion of the house. The north and south entrances are in the middle bay of the total composition, which is the east bay of Section I, the older of these two sections, having four structural walls. Section II was added to Section I and the south wall of Section II is frame, undoubtedly to allow the one storey, shed-roofed two bay frame extension to the south, housing two smaller rooms, probably contemporary with this Section II.

A single brick chimney rises centered on and flush with each end of the main house, and a third chimney rises through the gabled roof, its alignment flush with the original east end of Section I. Three dormers of 20th century construction pierce both the north and south slopes of the roof.

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

6. SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) c. 1796			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	losophy	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	itarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
<p>The property on which Locust Hill is located was originally patented by Josephus Murray in 1753 and sold by him to Jeremiah Johnson the following year.</p> <p>Although the 1783 tax assessment shows improvements on this parcel of Johnson's land, it is impossible to know whether they were part of the existing house. However, the 1798 Federal Direct tax does list very precisely a two storey stone dwelling 36' x 22' with a stone kitchen and a smokehouse. By this time, the property had been deeded to Jeremiah Johnson's son, Hickman.</p> <p>Members of the Johnson family lived at Locust Hill for many years. Elisha Sollers Johnson married Eleanor Worthington, daughter of Samuel Worthington, and she inherited the farm after her husband's death in 1866. The house was evidently altered extensively during this period, possibly to accomodate Elisha Johnson's family of six children.</p> <p>It is of special interest to note that the present owner, Mr. Thomas Worthington Offutt, is a collateral descendant of Elisha and Eleanor Johnson.</p>			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Federal Direct Tax of 1798.

Baltimore County Tax Assessments: 1783, 1823, 1876, 1896.

Advertisement: Baltimore Sun, March 15, 1942

St. John's P.E. Church, Worthington, Parish Records

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **21 acres**

Acreage Justification:

(This area is currently blank for justification.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Catherine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION: **Worthington Valley Historical District Project** DATE: **Jan. 1, 1976**

STREET AND NUMBER:
1114 Bellemore Road

CITY OR TOWN: **Baltimore** STATE: **Maryland**

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:
 National State Local

 Signature

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related to the entrance doors and to interior doors through the first floor of the house. A wide chimney breast projects behind the stair; from the cellar, a former fireplace is visible behind the stair, leading to the conjecture that the space was first conceived as a room, not as a hall, with exterior entrances typically in the central bay, directly into the westerly room, a typical arrangement for houses of this period and scale. Indeed, irregularities in the wall surfaces, both inside and out, beneath the center bay's north and south windows, suggest these conjectured entrances. A consistent irregularity in interior plaster, at chair rail height indicates the original presence of chair rail, and an earlier winding stair is ghosted on the wall beneath the existing stair, all removed when the house was enlarged and restyled early in the nineteenth century.

Section II is three steps lower than the earlier Section I; its principal room is the dining room, and its south wall is a few feet north of the south exterior wall above, giving additional space to the two small service rooms in the one storey southerly extension of this section. The dining room chimney breast is centered on the room, suggesting that the present partition arrangement is original.

Mantels, consisting of pilasters or columns supporting a paneled frieze, paneled window jambs and corner-block architraves at windows and doors, all date from the period of the dining room addition. The dining room chair rail; the only chair rail in the house, is modern, as is the wood cornice throughout the first storey of Sections I and II.

A large fireplace, designed for cooking, remains in the old kitchen, north of which a winding stair ascends to the second floor, the hewn joist structure of which is exposed in the old kitchen.

The second floor plan is similar, as is most woodwork, except for the doors,

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which are of six panels, fully raised, with ovolo mouldings on stiles and rails, undoubtedly remaining from the house in its original period. South of the west chimney is a closet, with a pair of similar doors, together forming six panels in the typical arrangement. Its architrave surround includes an ovolo backband, extending to form part of a crossette. Similar closet doors and trim north of the same chimney are modern. A patch in the floor and beaded baseboard in front of the modern closet may relate to an earlier winding staircase, or other earlier construction, now removed.

Access to the unfinished attic is by an enclosed, winding staircase in the southeast corner of Section I, beside the original east chimney. Doors with four fully raised panels enclose the attic stair and the closet beneath. Handmade wrought iron nails are exposed within the attic stairway. Hewn rafters and collar beams are pegged together. A single four-light casement in the gable ends, north of the chimney, lit the attic originally; the easterly window now looks into the attic Section II, and six modern dormers provide much additional light. The rafters of Section II are also hewn and lapped and pegged at the ridge. The attic of Section III is inaccessible.

The unfinished cellar extends only beneath Section I. All first floor joists have been replaced. A stone-walled, gable roofed cellar entrance extends from the west end near the southwest corner.

Immediately south of the kitchen wing is a two storey stone, stuccoed, out-building, 14 feet square, with a pyramidal roof. Its original function is indetermined.

East of the house, approximately aligned, is a small, one storey log tenant or quarters house, of undetermined age, now slightly enlarged and extensively but simply refinished internally as a guest house.

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To the southeast stands a log shed, one storey, built into the hillside, measuring approximately 21 by 27 feet, its south wall open, and its east wall of framed construction. Chinking between the logs is, principally, small flat stones laid diagonally. The east wall was originally of log construction, and short sections of logs at the southwest corner suggest that all or part of the south front was also log.

Early photographs of the house indicate a paneled, stepped parapet front on the existing north entrance porch, a detail consistent with the conjectured date of this porch. Other photographs show the log tenant house as a three-bay house, with door centered, and the two storey outbuilding immediately south of the kitchen with a wood water tank projecting above the roof.

Continuation Sheet

Question 7

Windows of both Sections I and II are 6/6, with louvred blinds. Frames are thin with a beaded edge. The north entrance is sheltered by a one storey, one bay portico, its ceiling and tympanum shaped in an elliptical arch. A pair of columns supports each front corner of the roof structure and a single column supports it at the house wall. Columns are tapered round shafts with simplified capitals only suggested. Two round rails enclose all but the entrance bay of the portico, which appears contemporary with Section II. Similar columns at the south entrance, at the house wall, suggest that the original south porch was contemporary with the north porch, but probably with a shed roof coincidental with the southerly extension of Section II, the south porch has been enlarged and enclosed. Both entrances have pilastered surrounds supporting a cornice (with neither frieze nor architrave), enclosing an eight paneled door, matching jambs and a transom; panel raises are shaped to form an extremely shallow pyramid, all characteristic of the 1820-1840 period.

The construction of Section III, 1½ storey kitchen wing, appears to be contemporary with the construction of Section II. Exterior features include an entrance in the westerly bay of the south front, 6/6 windows with louvred blinds, a single dormer in the north slope, a large modern shed-roofed dormer in the south roof slope, and a flush chimney centered on the east end.

Section IV at the east end of the house has a door in its south front, the only access or opening in the walls of this service room, constructed after Section III, but probably nearly contemporary with it.

Section I is divided into two rooms: the west room is two bays in length, the east room is one bay; the latter contains the principal north and south entrances, and the principal stair which is enclosed in paneling stylistically

Continuation Sheet

Question 7

round rail joins them with pegged mortise and tenon; balusters are plain, rectangular. Partitions of single-thickness vertical, beaded-edge boards divide the central hall from the single flanking room in each storey. Although the front door is of eight panels, interior doors are of vertical boards. Original mantels, in the south fireplaces of both storeys, include plain pilasters supporting a plain frieze and shelf. The north mantel of the first storey is an elegant example of ca. 1800, including reeding, carving and gauge carving, said to come from a Shippen house in Philadelphia.

The unfinished attic is accessible by a winding staircase in the southwest corner of the main house. Rafters and cellar beams are half-lapped and pegged.

The cellar, which extends beneath the main house only, is accessible by a stair descending from the kitchen perch.

Like all buildings with known dates, this one becomes a text in the study and relative dating of other structures in its region.

Question 9

Circuit Court of Baltimore County Liber 122 folio 469 etc. (Litigation over estate of John T. Johns).

Federal Direct Tax of 1798 and Baltimore County Tax Assessments.

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Baltimore TOWN _____ VICINITY Dist. IV STREET NO. *		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY BA-194	
ORIGINAL OWNER _____ ORIGINAL USE _____ PRESENT OWNER _____ PRESENT USE _____ WALL CONSTRUCTION _____ NO. OF STORIES _____		2. NAME Dovecote (LOVER HILL?) <i>PH</i> DATE OR PERIOD 1790 STYLE _____ ARCHITECT _____ BUILDER _____	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		OPEN TO PUBLIC	
<p style="text-align: center;">*Butler Road and Mantua Mill Road, Worthington Valley.</p> <p>Charming old stone house -- stuccoed; bounded by two streams, the Piney Run and The Western Run. Library has original paneling, dark oak floors and hand hewn beams. Near main house is an old log cabin, now used as a guest house. Planting includes a charming boxwood garden and exceptionally large yews. Owners, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Worthington Offutt.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(second HABS report) E. Francis Offutt HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY March 20, 1968</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE		Endangered	Interior
			Exterior
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER	
		DATE OF RECORD	

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





LOCUST Hill

Wollon 1975 BA-173