

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-0348
Belle Acres
14025 Phoenix Road
Phoenix, Baltimore County
Ca. 1825
Private

Belle Acres is located at 14025 Phoenix Road in the town of Phoenix in the Tenth District of Baltimore County. Although the exact date of construction was not determined, a circa 1825 date is supported by historic maps and architectural evidence. The house appears on both the 1850 and 1877 maps of Baltimore County. According to these maps, W. Royston occupied the house. The 1877 Hopkins Atlas lists Wesley A. Royston as a patron of the atlas. A native of Baltimore County, he was born in 1837 and was a farmer of 150 acres. The 1915 map of Baltimore County shows I. Smith as the occupant of Belle Acres.

Belle Acres fronts south with a golf course to the east and a paved driveway to the north. This random rubble stone dwelling is two-and-a-half stories in height and two-bays wide with a two-story wing. The vernacular house features a side gable, metal standing seam roof and two, rebuilt, interior end brick chimneys. The molded, boxed cornice with its raised diamond pattern is one of the few decorative elements exhibited on the façade. The main entry has a six-panel, single-leaf, wood door with a one-light transom. The three 6/6 vinyl windows on the façade of the main block feature square-edged wood surrounds, stone sills, and vertical board operable shutters. Five identical windows pierce the south elevation of the wing as well as a single-leaf, wood-paneled door. Three wood frame additions appear to have been constructed circa 1980. On the façade, a one-story, shed roof porch was added with screens. A two-story addition with a projecting shed roof screen porch abuts the wing on the east side. To the west of the main block is a one-and-a-half story addition with a gable dormer. Located to the west of the house is a circa 1980 wood frame shed.

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-0348

Condition

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> altered |

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Belle Acres, constructed circa 1825, fronts south with a golf course to the east and a paved driveway to the north. This random rubble stone dwelling is two-and-a-half stories in height and two-bays wide with a two-story wing. The vernacular house features a side gable, metal standing seam roof and two, rebuilt, interior end brick chimneys. The molded, boxed cornice with its raised diamond pattern is one of the few decorative elements exhibited on the façade. The main entry has a six-panel, single-leaf, wood door with a one-light transom. The three 6/6 vinyl windows on the façade of the main block feature square-edged wood surrounds, stone sills, and vertical board operable shutters. Five identical windows pierce the south elevation of the wing as well as a single-leaf, wood-paneled door. Three wood frame additions appear to have been constructed circa 1980. On the façade, a one-story, shed roof porch was added with screens. A two-story addition with a projecting shed roof screen porch abuts the wing on the east side. To the west of the main block is a one-and-a-half story addition with a gable dormer.

Located to the west of the house is a circa 1980 wood frame shed with a poured concrete foundation and pressed vertical board siding. It has an asphalt shingle gambrel roof and a metal, roll-up door that is paneled with lights.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-0348

| Period | Areas of Significance | Check and justify below | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> performing arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2000- | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> social history |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | | <input type="checkbox"/> maritime history | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

Specific dates 1825 ca. **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1825 ca., 1980 ca.

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

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The company town of Phoenix was established in the mid-1800s, when Thomas H. Fulton erected cotton mills in the area in 1847. After Fulton's death in 1851, the factory experienced several changes of ownership until 1875, when it was purchased by Robert Garrett and Joseph W. Jenkins.¹ By 1877, Phoenix, which was located along the Northern Central Railroad, was already well established with mills, stores, dwellings, and related buildings.² The new owners discontinued production for five years, and then, in 1881, they resumed mill operations. Shortly after reopening, the mill employed over 200 people from Phoenix and the surrounding community.³ In 1914, the City of Baltimore purchased the Phoenix mill as part of its plan to establish the Loch Raven Reservoir.⁴ Although the 1915 county atlas indicates that the community continued to thrive through the early 20th century, growth in Phoenix did not continue into the mid-1900s.⁵

¹ J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County from the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of their Representative Men* (Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1881), p. 880.

² *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G.M. Hopkins, 1877).

³ J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County from the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of their Representative Men* (Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1881), p. 880.

⁴ S. B. Clemens and C. E. Clemens, *From Marble Hill to Maryland Line: An Informal History of Northern Baltimore County* (np: C. E. Clemens and S. B. Clemens, 1976), p. 45.

⁵ *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-0348

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County*. Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.
Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men*. Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys*. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property Less Than One Acre
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name Phoenix Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Belle Acres is located at 14025 Phoenix Road in Phoenix in the Tenth District of Baltimore County. It has been associated with Tax Map 43, Parcel 246 since its construction circa 1825.

11. Form Prepared by

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|-----------|--------------|
| name/title | R. Weidlich, A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians | | |
| organization | EHT Traceries, Incorporated | date | May 16, 2001 |
| street & number | 1121 5th Street NW | telephone | 202.393.1199 |
| city or town | Washington | state | DC |

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

BA-0945
2642 STOCKTON ROAD
PHOENIX
BALTIMORE COUNTY

USGS Quad: PHOENIX
Scale: 1:24,000



BA-0626
14010 PHOENIX AVENUE
PHOENIX
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-7799
140 MOUNT AVENUE

BA-0349
14133 PHOENIX ROAD
PHOENIX
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-0348
14025 PHOENIX ROAD
PHOENIX
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-0531
2524 PAPER MILL ROAD
PHOENIX
BALTIMORE COUNTY (COCKEYSVILLE)
5662 1 NW

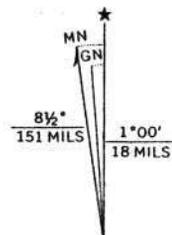


Mapped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USSCS
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1943. Topography by planetable surveys 1944
Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1957

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue

Unchecked elevations are shown in brown

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological
Survey from aerial photographs taken 1974. This
information not field checked.



UTM GRID AND 1974 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



BA-0348

14025 PHOENIX ROAD

PHOENIX

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERIES

3/2001

MD-ST80

SOUTH ELEVATION

1 of 4



BA-0348

14025 PHOENIX ROAD

PHOENIX

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERES

3/2001

MD-SHPD

NORTH ELEVATION

2 of 4



BA-0348

14025 PHOENIX ROAD

PHOENIX

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERIES

3/2001

MD-SHEO

SE CORNER

3 of 4



BA-0348
14025 PHOENIX ROAD
PHOENIX
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES

3/2001
MD-SHPD

NW CORNER

4 of 4

BA- 348

BELLE ACRES - Before 1850 - Phoenix Road, 0.3 mile north of Paper Mill Road. The W. Royston house of the 1850 map, and the W. Royston house of 1877 atlas. Survives as the dwelling house of the Hunt Valley Golf Course. Also a Royston family cemetery. Stone house, very early, with frame addition; each segment is two stories; stone end (east) has corrugated iron gable roof. Porch with recent wrought iron columns. A "1750) datestone was observed in 1988.