This small plot contains the graves of several members of the Lee family, including Squire Richard Lee, builder of the Blenheim mansion and Commander of the North Potomac for thirty years.
The Lee family cemetery is the only remaining evidence of the property's former association with the Lee family of Blenheim. The site is found on the property of the Mirant, formerly PEPCO, powerplant on the south side of the Harry W. Nice Bridge, overlooking the Potomac River. The Lee cemetery site is significant for its association with the Lee family of Maryland, one of the most prominent families in the area. Squire Richard Lee of Blenheim was the son of merchant Philip Lee, who once served as Naval Officer of the "North Potomac District". Philip Lee, the son of Col. Richard Lee the emigrant to Virginia, settled at Lee's Purchase in Charles County. Squire Richard Lee was the oldest son of Philip Lee and was educated in England before being admitted to Middle Temple as a member of the bar in May 1719. After returning to Maryland her served as Naval Officer for the Potomac River. He was president of the Governor's Council of Maryland for many years. Unlike his Virginia cousins Richard Henry Lee of Chantilly and Light Horse Harry Lee of Stratford Hall, Squire Richard Lee was a staunch Loyalist. The cemetery contains the graves of Richard Lee, his wife Grace R. Lee, and their daughter Alice Weems. Also buried here is Russell Lee, whose tomb describes him as "the last fond hope of a respectable and a numerous and once extensive family". Russell was likely a son or grandson of Richard and Grace Lee.
1. Name of Property  
   (indicate preferred name)  
   historic  Lee Graves  
   other  

2. Location  
   street and number  12620 Crain Highway  
   city, town  Newburg  
   county  Charles  

3. Owner of Property  
   (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)  
   name  Mirant Mid-Atlantic LLC  
   street and number  1155 Perimeter Center West  
   city, town  Atlanta  
   state  GA  
   telephone  Unknown  
   zip code  20664  

4. Location of Legal Description  
   courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.  Charles County Courthouse  
   tax map and parcel:  82 p. 10  
   city, town  LaPlata  
   liber  3101  
   folio  348  

5. Primary Location of Additional Data  
   Contributing Resource in National Register District  
   Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
   Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
   Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
   Recorded by HABS/HAER  
   Historic Structure Report or Research Report  
   Other  

6. Classification  

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The Lee family cemetery is the only remaining evidence of the property's former association with the Lee family of Blenheim. The site is found on the property of the Mirant, formerly PEPCO powerplant on the south side of the Harry W. Nice Bridge, overlooking the Potomac River. Mirant maintains the cemetery which is enclosed by a chain link fence. The cemetery stands on open clear ground within view of the Nice bridge. A monument erected by PEPCO stands near the center of the plot. All memorial stones are flat and likely carved from marble. Many are in poor condition. The cemetery contains the graves of Richard Lee, his wife Grace R. Lee, and their daughter Alice Weems. Also buried here is Russell Lee, whose tomb describes him as “the last fond hope of a respectable and a numerous and once extensive family”. Russell was likely a son or grandson of Richard and Grace Lee.

The exact location of Blenheim has never been determined. Research conducted by J. Richard Rivoire in the 1970's and 80's suggests that this site was a significant distance north of the current site. Accordingly, Rivoire identifies this location as the site of Rosedale or Ferry Farm, a 1780 gambrel roof structure erected by Robert or John Laidler. (1)

ENDNOTES
8. Significance

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Specific dates: 1789-1793
Architect/Builder: NA
Construction dates: 1789-1793

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 reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The Lee Cemetery site is significant for its association with the Lee family of Maryland, one of the most prominent families in the area. Squire Richard Lee of Blenheim was the son of merchant Philip Lee, who once served as Naval Officer of the "North Potowmck District". Philip Lee, the son of Col. Richard Lee the emigrant to Virginia, settled at Lee's Purchase in Charles County.
Squire Richard Lee was the oldest son of Philip Lee and was educated in England before being admitted to Middle Temple as a member of the bar in May 1719. After returning to Maryland he served as Naval Officer for the Potomac River. He was president of the Governor's Council of Maryland for many years. Unlike his Virginia cousins Richard Henry Lee of Chantilly and Light Horse Harry Lee of Stratford Hall, Squire Richard Lee was a staunch Loyalist.
9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1 of 343.68
Acreage of historical setting unknown
Quadrangle name 343.68
Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Blenheim site and Lee cemetery is associated with Charles County property Tax Map 82, Parcel 10.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cathy Currey/Historic Sites Survey
organization Charles County Property Tax Map
date 10/19/01
street and number 200 Baltimore Street
telephone 301-396-5815
state MD zip code 20646

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
410-514-7600
MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Lee Graves
name of property
Charles County, Maryland
county and state

Major Bibliographic References:


Charles County Circuit Court Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, LaPlata, Maryland.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown. The History of Charles County, Maryland. LaPlata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.
LEE GRAVES
Potomac River Bridge
4 tombstones
Transcribed February 6, 1939 by the Potomac River Bridge Company
(information from the Maryland Historical Society Library, Baltimore)

LEE
Grace R. Lee, wife of Rd. Lee lies here interred by the side
of her beloved husband. She died on the 16th day of October
1789 in the 77th year of her age, erected by her dutiful daughter
E.A. Lee

Richard Lee of Blenheim, Maryland died on the 26th day of --- 1789
in the 81st year of his age. Richard Lee was the last President
of Maryland, erected by his daughter E.A. Lee

Here Lies intombed, the last fond hope of a respectable and a
numerous and once extensive family, Russel Lee who after a short
illness in consequence of a kick from a horse, departed this life
on the 4th September 1793, aged 17 years and 27 days

WEEMS
Alice Weems, daughter of Rd and Grace Lee, wife of John Weems
died on the 25th of July 1789, in the 40th year of her age
erected by her sister E.A. Lee
CH-181  LEE GRAVES
BETHLEHEM SITE 2 BEE CEMETERY
CHARLES CO. MD
C. CURRY
3/2001
MD SHPO
LOOKING NW
10F3
LEE FAMILY CEMETERY

Alice Weems, Daughter of Richard & Grace Lee
Died 25 July, 1789

Grace Lee, Wife of Richard Lee
Died 10 Oct, 1789

Richard Lee, Husband of Grace Lee
Died 26 July, 1789

Russell Lee, Son of Richard & Grace Lee
Died 4 Sept, 1789
04-181
LEE GRANES
Charles Co., MD
Memorial Stone
HERE LIES INTOMBED
The half-fond Hope of a Respectable
and a Numerous, and Once Esteemed Family

RUSSELL LEE
Who after a short illness in Consequence
Of a Kick from a Hare Departed this Life
On the 19th Sept. 1795.
Aged 17 Years and 27 Days.

He was the only Surviving Son of
The late P.T. LEE, eldest Son of
RICHARD LEE, of Blenheim deceased.

"His time a Moment,
And a pint life may mourn
Remembrance is the Embrace, fond
To the better friends I have
In the realm beyond the grave.

The guardian angels nigh
Wait to waft my soul on high!

See a flood of sacred light,
What can more shall yeld to night!

Transpire world, farewell!
Jesus calls with him to dwell.

With his heavenly presence blest
Death is life, and labour rest."
CH 181
BECKTHOMS SIDE & CEMETERY LEE GRAVES
CHARLES CO, MD
O. CURREY
8/2001
MD SHPO
RUSSELL LEE STONE
30F3