

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Maryland HA-5

COUNTY:
Harford

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Sophia's Dairy

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Lane runs north of U. S. 40 about 0.6 mile east of Belcamp Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Belcamp, near Aberdeen

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
First

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Harford CODE: 025

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
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:
Bata Shoe Company

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 40 at Belcamp Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Belcamp, near Aberdeen

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Clerk of the Circuit Court

STREET AND NUMBER:
Harford County Courthouse, 40 South Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Bel Air

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
Washington

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: D.C. CODE: 11

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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 type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This large center-hall brick house faces south in a grove of locust and poplar trees overlooking the Bush River about two miles southwest of Aberdeen.

The severely plain exterior of Sophia's Dairy is in vivid contrast to the elegantly finished rooms inside and the spectacular staircase in the hall.

Flemish bond brickwork rises two stories high from a lighted stone base-ment. Oblong, 64' by 45', 7 bays by 2 (with 6 by 2 upstairs), the house faces south. A low stone wing running east, formerly a separate coach-house now connected to the house, serves as a garden workroom for the present owner. The gable roof ridgeline runs east-west over a plain cor-nice and trim eaves. About six feet in from either end wall are two chim-neys rising from back-to-back fireplaces on both floors. Unshuttered win-dows have 6 lights over 6.

Indoors there are two large rooms on either side of the hall. The wain-scoted hall, 16' by 45', is amply lighted by windows on either side of the front and back doors and by light descending through the wide stairwell from two windows in each end of the hall above.

The most extraordinary feature of Sophia's Dairy is the double stair which extends upward on the west wall from both ends of the hall. It continues east in one short flight, then seperates and parallels the lower flight to the second story hall. The step ends have handsome scrolled fretwork, and the balusters are turned. At the base of the stair the handrail ter-minates in a volute, as does the lower step. Raised panel dado extends around the room and up the stairs, as well as on the stair soffit.

Fluted pilasters support Doric frieze with modillion cornice above the parlor fireplace. Between the pilasters is a plain panel with crossetted trim above a mantel shelf which in turn is supported on crossetted trim around the fireplace. The dining room on the opposite side of the hall has a similar overmantel, but it lacks the Doric frieze. In its place is a dentil cornice. The mantel appears to be a subsequent addition of the Federal period. Flanking the fireplace is a glazed china cabinet and a door to the back hall, both flanked by fluted pilasters. The aforesaid rooms have paneled dado and window seats and jambs and crossetted trim around the windows and doors. The rear (north) rooms have been slightly altered for use as a bedroom and bath, and a kitchen. Raised paneling on the fireplace wall and other architectural features are undisturbed in the kitchen.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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 type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1768

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" 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	osophy	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	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

This fine Georgian center-hall house was built in 1768 by the third generation of the Hall family to own this land, Sophia White Hall and her husband Aquilla Hall. First cousins, their grandfather John Hall of Cranberry added this tract in 1718 to earlier patents amounting to 1500 or more acres along the Bush River first acquired in 1673. In 1731 when his daughter Sophia married Col. Thomas White, lawyer and surveyor for Charles Carroll, John Hall gave her 150 acres.¹

Thomas and Sophia White lived on this tract in a house on the Bush River that is now destroyed. Col. White was born in England in 1704, came to America at the age of fifteen, and became a lawyer and an expert in land titles. This was his first land holding, but by 1777 he owned 7,772 acres. In 1745, however, his wife died, and he moved to Philadelphia, and married two years later for the second time. A son by that marriage, William White became the first Episcopal Bishop in America, and a daughter Mary married Robert Morris, signer of the Declaration, and financier of the American Revolution.²

Sophia White II the only child of the first marriage to marry and leave descendants, married her cousin Aquilla Hall. They built the present house in 1768. Quoting from family papers Preston reports that the house was built using "the hands of five redemptionists, two of whom were masons, two carpenters, and one a laborer, who worked with imported bricks and who, when their work was finished, received freedom as their reward."³

Aquilla Hall, born in 1727, was sheriff of Baltimore County in 1762, and a member of the House of Delegates in 1763. In 1773 he was one of seven Commissioners of the newly formed Harford County. He owned the house at Bush in which the first court of the County was held. His name appears

¹ C. Milton Wright, Our Harford Heritage, (By the Author, 1966) p. 30-31.
² Walter W. Preston, History of Harford County, (Baltimore: Press of the Sun Book Office, 1901.) p. 205.
³ Walter Preston, History of Harford County, (Baltimore: Press of the Sun Book Office, 1901.) p. 205.

(see continuation sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Number all entries)

Sophia's Dairy

No. 8. Significance continued

first among the twenty-two signers of the Bush Declaration, believed to be the first Declaration of Independence in the country, signed 22 March 1775, fourteen months prior to the signing of the world-famous document prepared by Jefferson in Philadelphia. He was appointed Colonel of the militia by the State Convention of 1776. He was a Lord Justice of the Court at Bush in 1779, the last year of his life.

After several transfers inside the Hall-White-Wainwright family, the farm was acquired by the Bata Shoe Company, originally a Czech firm that re-located here to avoid Nazi appropriation in 1934. Bata planned a large city for their workers on this land, but found instead that American workers expect to commute long distances to work. However, the Dairy house was carefully restored for their executive, Victor Schmidt, whose widow lives in the house today.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Earle, Swepson. The Chesapeake Bay Country. Baltimore: Thomsen-Ellis Company, 1934

Forman, Henry Chadlee. Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland. Easton, Maryland: By the Author, 1934

Preston, Walter W. History of Harford County. Baltimore: Press of the Sun Book Office, 1901.

Wright, C. Milton. Our Harford Heritage. By the Author, 1966.

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		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	39° 28' 25"	76° 14' 10"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	39° 28' 29"	76° 14' 01"				
SE	39° 28' 22"	76° 13' 56"				
SW	39° 28' 16"	76° 14' 05"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 16 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Jean S. Ewing

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: April 18, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Orlando Ridout
Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Preservation Officer
for Maryland

Date April 18, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

<p>1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Harford County TOWN Belcamp VICINITY STREET NO. Belcamp</p> <p>ORIGINAL OWNER Acquila Hall ORIGINAL USE Dwelling PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION Stone foundation NO. OF STORIES 2 and brick</p>	<p>HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY HA - 5</p>
<p>2. NAME Sophia's Dairy</p> <p>DATE OR PERIOD 1768 STYLE Georgian ARCHITECT BUILDER Acquila Hall</p>	<p>3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE</p>
<p>4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC <u>NO</u></p> <p>Sophia's Dairy is a 6 bay brick mansion built near the Bush River in Harford County. The house is 2 stories with high attic and two large square central chimneys. The roof is "A" shaped. It sits on a stone basement and there is a molded water-table. The brick is laid in Flemish bond on all sides. Above the windows of the first floor are flat arches of gauged brick. The arches of the second floor consist of a string of headers laid vertically. All of the windows have 6 over 6 sash. There is a square "date brick" in the west gable which reads "1768" with "A H" beneath. The door is centered in each facade and there is no window above. Each is a double door with fluted pilasters. The cap of each pilaster has a strapwork design similar to a snowflake. There is a semi-circular transom above each door. Over the south entrance is a pedimented portico. To the east of the dwelling is a one-story stone wing which houses the garage, green house, etc. The overall appearance is extremely severe and extremely large. The interior is noted for its fine woodwork, and especially for the double staircase which rises from the central hall.</p> <p>The house is situated close to the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad tracks.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(continued on reverse side)</p>	
<p>5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Exterior</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Endangered Interior</p>	
<p>6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p>7. PHOTOGRAPH</p>
<p>8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.</p> <p>Forman, Henry Chandlee <u>Early Manor and Plantation Houses</u> <u>of Maryland, 1934 - page 128</u></p>	<p>9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Michael O. Bourne Maryland Historical Trust</p> <p>DATE OF RECORD March 11, 1968</p>

The house was built by Aquila Hall and named for his wife, Sophia. Robert Morris, the "Financier of the Revolution" married Sophia's sister, and they visited the Dairy many times. When the Continental Congress moved to Baltimore during the Revolution - when the British threatened to take over Philadelphia - Mrs. Morris and her family stayed at the Dairy.

MARYLAND

PERRYMAN

76°15'00"
39°30'00"

CAMBERS 7 MI
17°10"

lat
 W 39° 28' 25"
 E 39° 28' 29"
 E 39° 28' 22"
 W 39° 28' 16"

long
 76° 14' 10"
 76° 14' 01"
 76° 13' 56"
 76° 14' 05"

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WOODRUFF 2.2 MI.
BUSH 6.7 MI.

BALTIMORE 23 MI.
VON RIBBER 2.7 MI.

27°30'



HA-5

2-1-73

11-67

Lophia's Davy " from southeast

882 1/73



HA-5

K