

Bon Secours  
M:23-54  
Montgomery County, Maryland

The property known as Bon Secours is located on the north side of Brookeville Road, 1/4-mile east of the crossroads community of Mt. Zion in rural, eastern Montgomery County, Maryland. The property includes, at its center, an Italianate-style, pre-Civil War-era dwelling, and seven related agricultural buildings and associated domestic outbuildings neatly grouped behind it. The main house is reached by a semi-circular, tree-lined drive, that is set well back from Brookeville Road, and is surrounded by cultivated fields. Bon Secours, associated with two of Montgomery County's most well-respected founding families (the Riggs and Griffiths), survives as an excellent example of an intact, mid-19th-century rural estate in Montgomery County. The property meets Criterion C of the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties and the National Register of Historic Places.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. M-23-54

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Bon Secours; Hollywood

common/other name \_\_\_\_\_

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number 4901 Brookeville Rd Not for publication \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Brookeville vicinity X state Maryland code MD

county Montgomery code \_\_\_\_\_ zip code 20833

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

N/A

=====

4. National Park Service Certification

N/A

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing      Noncontributing

<u>8</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>8</u>	_____	Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Listing \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

=====  
6. Function or Use  
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)  
Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling  
SUBSISTENCE/AGRICULTURE Barn

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)  
Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling

=====  
7. Description  
=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)  
Italianate

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)  
foundation Stone  
roof Cross gable; asphalt shingles  
walls Wood frame; German siding and vinyl  
other \_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

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8. Statement of Significance  
=====

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

=====  
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance circa 1855  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates circa 1855  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Boyd, T.H.S., *History of Montgomery County*, 1879. Reprint.  
Baltimore, MD: Clearfield Comp., 1989.

Farquhar, Roger Brooke. *Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, MD.* Silver Spring, MD., 1952, 1962.

Genealogical Abstracts, *Montgomery County Sentinel 1855-1899.*

MacMaster, Richard K. and Ray Eldon Hiebert. *A Grateful Remembrance: The Story of Montgomery County, Maryland, 1776-1976.* Rockville, MD.: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976.

Montgomery County Historical Society, Rockville, MD., Vertical Files.

Montgomery County Land Records, Montgomery County, Maryland.

Mutual Assurance Society Records, Montgomery County Historical Society.

Nesbitt, Martha C. and Mary Reading Miller. *Chronicles of Sandy Spring Friends Meeting and Environs.* Sandy Spring, MD., 1987.

Noble, Allen G. and Richard K. Cleek. *The Old Barn Book: A Field Guide to North American Barns and other Farm Structures.* New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1995.

Sandy Spring Museum, Sandy Spring, Maryland, Vertical Files.

Maps and Drawings and Photographs

Hopkins, G.M., comp. *Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington, including the County of Montgomery, Maryland*, 1879. Reprint. Rockville, MD.: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1975.

Martenet, Simon L. *Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County*, 1865.

Photograph of Bon Secours, circa 1900-1910 (ex collection Samuel Riggs, IV, Sandy Spring Museum, vertical files).

Photograph of Bon Secours, circa 1981 (Sandy Spring Museum, vertical files).

=====  
10. Geographical Data  
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Acreage of Property 196 acres

**Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)**

The property occupies Parcel 850 on Tax Map HU 123 in Montgomery County, MD. and includes 196 acres.

**Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)**

The property includes all of that land historically associated with Bon Secours.

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11. Form Prepared By  
=====

name/title Kimberly Prothro Williams, Architectural Historian  
organization M-NCPPC date October 19, 1998  
street & number 8787 Georgia Avenue telephone 301/563-3403  
city or town Silver Spring state MD zip code 20910  
=====

12. Property Owner

=====  
name D.S. and Sylvia Nash  
street & number 4901 Brookeville Road telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Brookeville state MD zip code 20833  
=====

The property known as "Bon Secours" is located on the north side of Brookeville Road, 1/4-mile east of the crossroads community of Mt. Zion in rural, eastern Montgomery County, Maryland. The property includes, at its center, an Italianate-style, pre-Civil War-era dwelling and seven related agricultural buildings and associated domestic outbuildings. The main house is reached by a semi-circular, tree-lined drive, that is set well back from Brookeville Road, and is surrounded by cultivated fields.

#### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

At the center of Bon Secours and facing south to Brookeville Road, is a large, 2-1/2-story Italianate-style frame dwelling. The dwelling, which consists of a principal, three-bay main block and contemporaneous rear wing<sup>1</sup> to the north, is set upon a random-laid stone foundation and is covered with a cross gable roof. The wood walls are clad with vinyl siding, except at the second story of the front facade where the original German siding remains intact. The house is characterized by its large, round-arched windows, its central gable and its expansive porch.

#### Exterior Description

The south elevation is divided into three bays. The first story consists of a central entry and flanking windows, while the second story features windows in all bays. The central entry, reached from the raised porch, has a pair of two-paneled doors flanked by five-light sidelights and surmounted by a two-light transom. The windows to either side of the entry have 8/12 sash, both with a heavy central muntin giving them the appearance of paired windows, and large wood trim with a half-round profile. The second story has a round-arched tri-partite window on center and two round-arched windows to either side, all surrounded by wood trim with a large, half-round profile. The tri-partite window consists of three, 4/4 sash, the central sash being taller and wider than the flanking ones. The side windows have 8/8 sash with heavy central muntins and solid wood shutters. A half-round louvered opening decorates the attic level of the central gable, while deep, undecorated eaves extend well beyond the cornice line. These eaves were historically decorated with a scroll-sawn barge board detail visible on historic photographs, but which are no longer intact. The roof is clad with asphalt shingles and features two interior brick chimneys.

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<sup>1</sup> Although built contemporaneously, the rear wing was entirely rebuilt in 1958 having suffered significant damage due to a severe tornado.

Bon Secours  
name of property  
Montgomery County, MD  
county and state

=====  
The three-bay porch with square wood columns supporting a flat porch roof and set upon a raised brick foundation was rebuilt in recent years.<sup>2</sup> The rebuilt porch is similar to and presumably based upon the original porch, shown in historic photos of the property taken around the turn of this century. Although similar in overall form and scale, the rebuilt porch lacks the details of the original, such as the turned balusters on the porch railing.

The west elevation of the main block is two bays deep and features, most notably, a projecting window bay in the front bay of the first story. This polygonal bay has three long 6/9 windows in each wall surface. Directly above the bay window on the second story is one large 8/12 window with a thick central muntin. The rear bay has, on both the first and second stories, a single 6/6 window with a thick central muntin. A half-round louvered vent is located on center of this wall surface at the attic level.

The east elevation is similarly two bays deep, but lacks the projecting bay window. Here, one 8/12 window and one 8/8 window are located in the front and rear bays, respectively, of the first story, while two 8/8 windows light the second story level.

The two-story rear ell which projects from the north elevation of the main block of the house was rebuilt in 1958 following severe tornado damage to the original structure. The ell, which extends across two of the house's three-bay width, is four bays deep, each bay consisting of a single, 6/6 window. A wide, four-bay-deep porch is built along the east elevation of the ell, while a narrower porch extends along the west elevation. At the second story of the north elevation of this rear ell, a set of outdoor stairs leads to an enclosed entry vestibule. These stairs and entry vestibule, added in recent years, provide access to an apartment accommodated in the second story of the rear ell of the house.

The interior of the house was not surveyed. However, based upon existing documentation, the house features a wide, central hall with a black walnut stairway with persimmon risers and 14-foot ceilings and 12-foot windows. The house also retains its original random-width wood floors, its six original mantels, five ceiling medallions, and silver-plated door hinges. The ceiling medallions and door hinges were apparently completed in 1860 by a Bavarian craftsman who also built a gold-leaf frame mantel mirror in the west front room of the house.

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<sup>2</sup> The rebuilt porch replaced a double-story portico which was probably built in the mid-20th century and which stood at least until 1981. (A 1981 photo of the house shows this double-story portico.)

**AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS AND DOMESTIC OUTBUILDINGS:**

Immediately east and north of the main dwelling is a group of six agricultural buildings and domestic outbuildings, including three barns, a chicken coop, a stone spring house and an unidentified building (possibly a farm office, or servants quarters). A seventh building--a barn--is located in the cultivated fields to the north of the complex. A short description of each of these buildings is provided below:

1) Drive-thru corn crib. The drive-thru corn crib is located immediately east of the main dwelling, and faces a dirt farm lane which leaves the main drive to the fields beyond. It is a frame structure clad with vertical wood siding and is set upon a rubble stone foundation. It is covered with a standing seam metal gable roof with central dormer windows and side shed extensions.

2) Bank Barn. A large frame bank barn is located just beyond the drive-thru corn crib along the farm lane. It is set upon a stone foundation and has vertical board walls and louvred window openings.

3) Stone pumphouse. The pumphouse is located immediately east of the main dwelling. It is a rubble stone structure with a standing seam metal gable roof.

4) Kitchen. The kitchen dependency is located immediately behind the house. Rectangular in plan and featuring two rooms, the kitchen is constructed of frame and is covered with a gable roof. A stone end chimney with a brick shaft is located on the north gable end of the building.

5) Chicken coop. The chicken coop is a frame structure with a monitor roof.

6) A double corn crib. This frame structure has two cribs and a gable roof.

7) Barn: This large frame bank barn is located in a field well beyond the domestic complex and not further surveyed.

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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Bon Secours, associated with two of Montgomery County's most well-respected families (the Riggs and Griffiths), survives as an excellent example of an intact, mid-19th-century rural estate in Montgomery County. The property includes an impressive Italianate-style dwelling, and several associated buildings (both domestic and agricultural), cohesively grouped behind the main dwelling. The property meets Criterion C of the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties and the National Register of Historic Places.

Historic Context

Originally part of the larger "Addition to Brooke Grove" and owned by Thomas Brooke in the 18th century, Bon Secours traces its origins as an independent property to 1861. At that time, Nicholas R. Griffith received title to a 172-acre tract of the "Addition to Brooke Grove" following the property's sale at public auction in 1859. Griffith, who named the property "Hollywood" for its trees, built the impressive Italianate-style dwelling in early 1861. Nicholas R. Griffith, a well-established tobacco broker in Baltimore, apparently intended to use the house as a summer retreat. Local history contends, however, that because the family were Southern sympathizers, the house was immediately occupied upon its completion.<sup>3</sup> Also according to local history, the frame structure and wood siding are of fir imported by "Clipper" from the West Coast, thence hauled from Baltimore by oxen.

Nicholas Griffith died circa 1864, leaving his property, valued at \$12,000 to his wife, Mary Susan (Jones) Griffith.<sup>4</sup> Mary Susan Griffith sold the property in 1871 to Daniel H. Gaither. By 1879, Gaither had improved the property to include the semi-circular, tree-lined drive and two buildings not shown on the 1865 Martenet and Bond map.<sup>5</sup> After making these improvements, Gaither held onto the property for several years, before selling it in 1885 to Soloman E. Yearly. The property was held by Soloman Yearly from

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<sup>3</sup> Roger Brooke Farquhar, *Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Maryland*, p. 104.

<sup>4</sup> The 1865 Martenet and Bond map of Montgomery County identifies the property as that of Susan Griffith. Biographical research indicates that Mary Susan Griffith, the wife of Nicholas R. Griffith, died in Baltimore County in 1899. (*Genealogical Abstracts, Montgomery County Sentinel, 1855-1899*, 158.)

<sup>5</sup> The semi-circular drive is clearly shown on the 1879 G.M. Hopkins map which identifies the property as the Daniel H. Gaither residence.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 2

Inventory No. M-23-54

Bon Secours

name of property

Montgomery County, MD

county and state

=====

1885 to 1905 before being acquired by Samuel Riggs. The property remained in Riggs family ownership until 1937. Since that time, the property, which has retained its acreage, has changed hands numerous times. Since 1979, the property has been owned by Donald S. and Sylvia Nash.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M-23-54

Bon Secours  
name of property  
Montgomery County, MD  
county and state

=====

**HISTORIC CONTEXT:**

**Geographic Organization:** Piedmont

**Chronological/Development Period (s):** Agricultural-Industrial  
Transition, 1815-1870

**Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s):**

Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and  
Community Planning

**RESOURCE TYPE(S)**

**Category:** Building

**Historic Environment:** Rural

**Historic Function (s):** DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling  
DOMESTIC/Secondary Structure  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/Barn

**Known Design Source:** Unknown

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M-23-54

Bon Secours  
name of property  
Montgomery County, MD  
county and state

=====  
Chain of Title:

Bon Secours was derived from "Addition to Brooke Grove" in 1794 when Dorothy Brooke, Thomas Brooke's niece acquired the parcel.

December 31, 1824                      Richard Brooke, Mary B. Brooke, Thomas P. Stabler and Elizabeth P. Stabler to Richard Watkins. For \$1500; being part of Addition to Brooke Grove. Liber Y Folio 45

April 24, 1861                         John Brewer and George Peter, Trustees to Nicholas R. Griffith. (Richard Watkins died, circa 1842 and left all of his real estate to his son Gassaway Watkins. Gassaway Watkins died a widower circa 1859, leaving his estate to his daughter and sole heir, Elizabeth B. Watkins, 11 years old.) Property sold at auction October 17, 1859 to Enoch B. Hutton. Hutton now wishes to substitute Nicholas R. Griffith as purchaser in this deed. Liber JGH 8 Folio 371.

May 3, 1871                             Mary S. Griffith to Daniel H. Gaither. (Nicholas Griffith died circa 1864, left farm to wife Mary S. Griffith.) Liber EBP 8 Folio 349 and 351 (for \$12,000).

October 1, 1885                         Samuel H. Gaither to Soloman E. Yearly. Liber EBP 35 Folio 341.

1905                                     Bond of Conveyance. Melissa J. Yearly (married) acknowledges herself bound to Samuel Riggs (II) in the amount of \$7700.00 of which \$3700 has been paid. She gives a note for balance of \$4000.00 on the property. Liber 180 Folio 245.

December 21, 1907                      Soloman E. Yearly to Samuel Riggs II. Liber 196 Folio 393

January 11, 1915 Samuel Riggs and wife to Douglas H. Riggs (their son). Liber 196 Folio 333 and Liber 252 Folio 1321.

August 16, 1937 Douglas H. Riggs to Mabel G. Hanscom. Liber 677 Folio 252.

November 2, 1945 Mabel G. Hanscom and Ridgely F. Hanscom to Sydney R. Prince, Jr. Liber 986 Folio 311; and

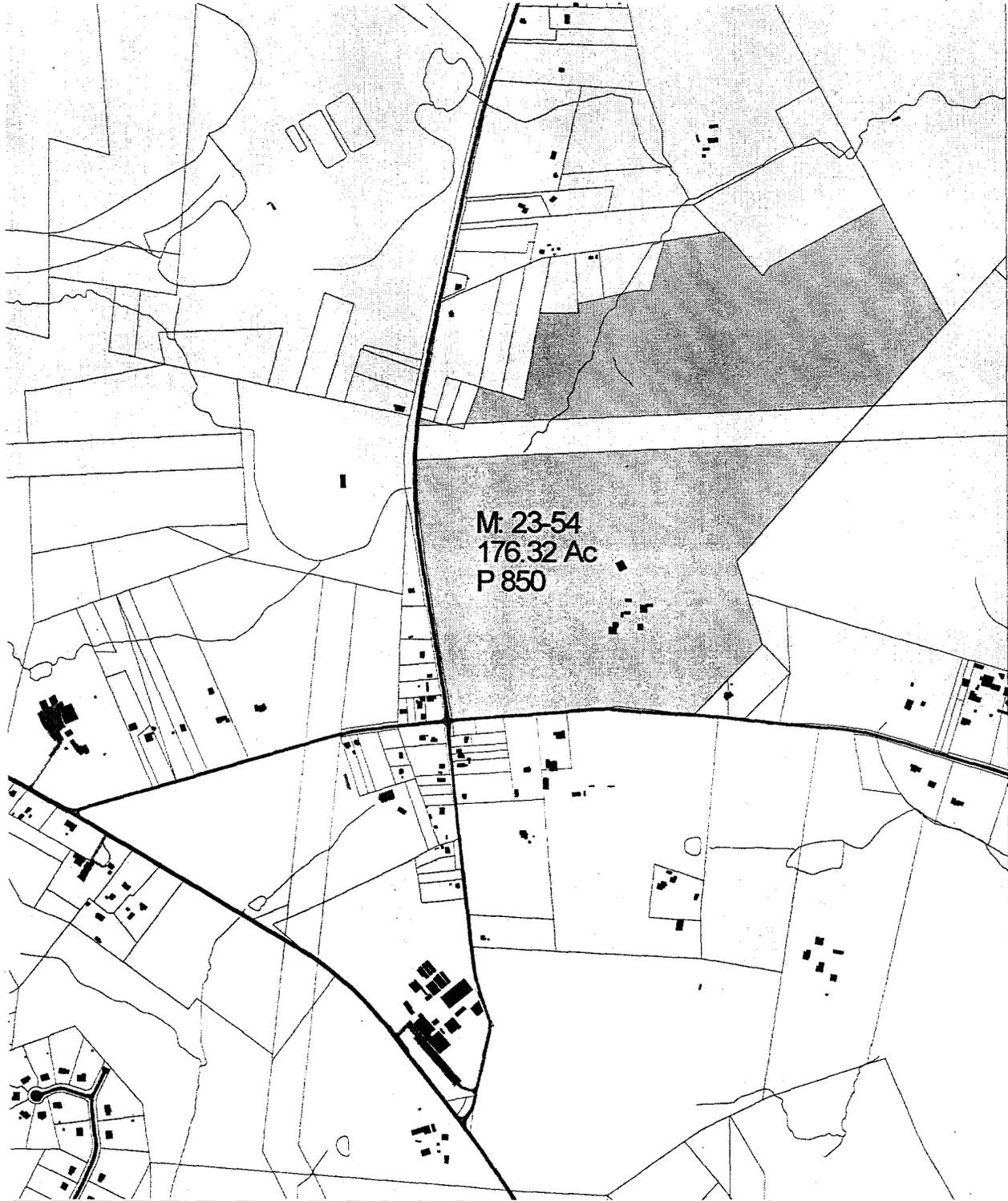
February 24, 1948 William George Dorsey to Sydney R. Prince, Jr. Liber 1235 Folio 83.

April 15, 1964 Sydney R. Prince to Jerry Wolman and wife Ann Wolman and Earl M. Foreman, Sydney Tiplin and wife, Rena Tiplin, Stanley Reines and wife, Harriett Reines. Liber 3209 Folio 190.

1969 Earl M. Foreman buys of Stanley Reines et ux and Sidney Tiplin et ux. Liber 3862 Folio 601.

August 15, 1979 Earl M. Foreman to Donald S. Nash and Sylvia K. Nash, tenants in common. Property contains 178 acres. Liber 5382 Folio 379.

# BON SECOURS (M: 23-54)



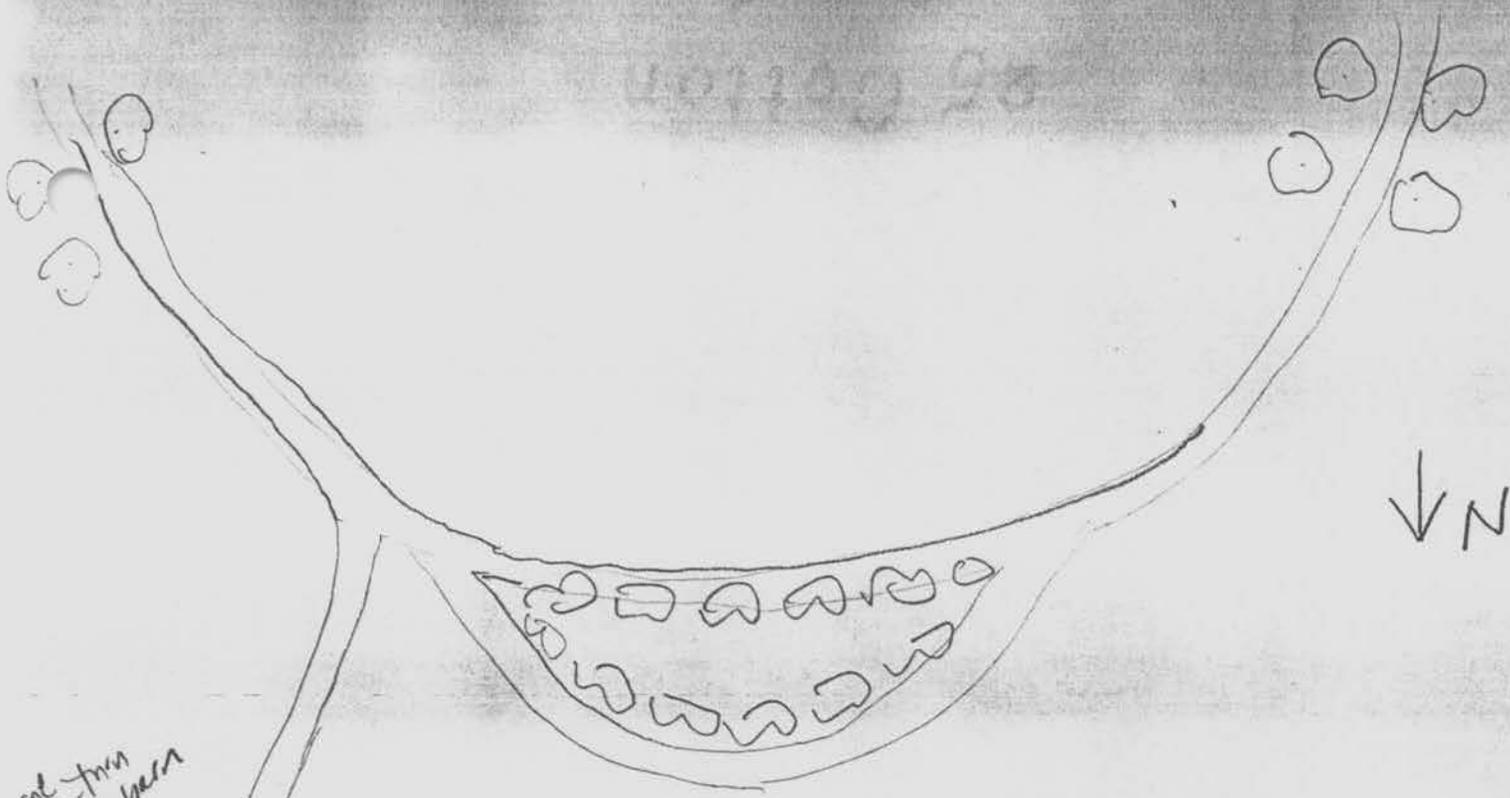
Visual User Application

**MNCPHC** MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND PLANNING  
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
8787 Georgia Avenue - Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

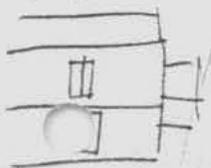
  
Scale 1" = 1100'

  
Technology  
Research & Technology Center





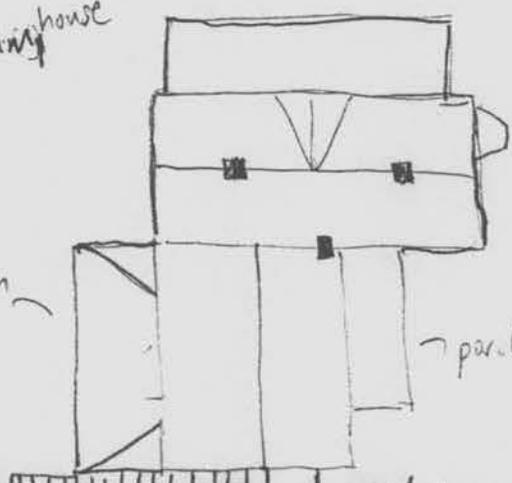
age from  
ashlar  
crib barn



stone piling house



porch



porch

- 2nd story enclosed entry (recent construction)



Bank  
barn on  
ashlar  
stone fdt.



chicken  
coop



- kitchen

stone chimney w/ wide shaft



2 crib barn

✓ Barn + cultivated fields below.

M:23-54

# MECHANICSVILLE DIST.

## No. 8.

Mont. Co.

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile

# MECHANICSVILLE OLNEY P.O.

Scale 600 Feet to the Inch

## BUSINESS NOTICES

<b>J. D. Barnsley</b> Dealer in all kinds of Mechanicsville, Md.	<b>Williams &amp; Boyer</b> Dealers in Dry Goods & Mechanicsville, Md.	<b>Joseph L. Wagner</b> Manufacture and Dealer in Shirts, Ties & Sewing Machines, also Sewing Machines, etc. Mechanicsville, Md.
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## BUSINESS NOTICES

**BRIGHTON.**  
Near Hartwood  
Agent for the Iron Metal Co.  
The N. of Philadelphia  
Manufacture of Iron, Steel, Castings,  
Machinery and other Ironwork  
**E. Power & Co.**  
Dealers in Machinery, Millinery  
Dry Goods, Sewing Machines, etc.  
Brighton, Md.  
**Henry Stabler**  
Dealers in Machinery, Millinery,  
Dry Goods, Sewing Machines, etc.  
Brighton, Md.

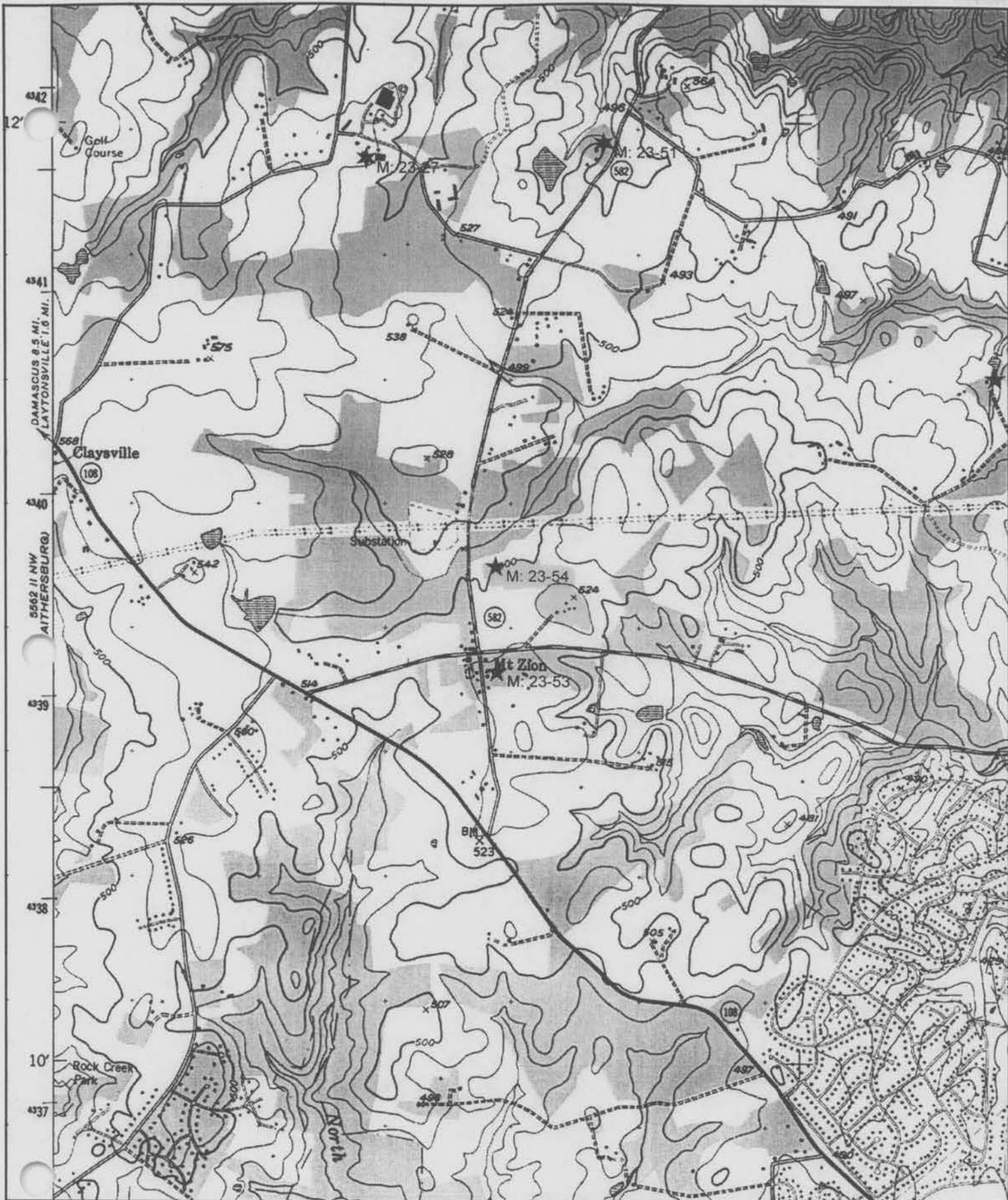
**MT. ZION.**  
**J. L. Snowden**  
Dealers in Dry Goods, Sewing  
Machines, etc.  
**Thos. Brown**  
Dealers in Machinery, Millinery,  
Dry Goods, etc.  
Brighton, Md.



Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1878 by G.M. Hopkins, in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington D.C.

Hopkins, G.M., comp. Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington, including the County of Montgomery, Maryland, 1879. Reprint. Rockville, MD.: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1975.

M.23-54



Name: SANDY SPRING  
 Date: 7/13/99  
 Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

Location: 039° 11' 12.9" N 077° 05' 58.4" W  
 Caption: BON SECOURS (M: 23-54)  
 4901 Brookeville Rd.



M  
23-54

BON SECOURS

MONTGOMERY CO. 1MD

KIM WILLIAMS

1-4-09

MARYLAND SHPO

SOUTH ELEVATION LOOKING NORTH

1 OF 2



23-5A

BON SECOURS

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

1-4-99

MARYLAND SHPO

SOUTHWEST OBLIQUE

2 OF 2

1605395504

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

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

<b>1. NAME</b>						
COMMON:						
AND/OR HISTORIC: <span style="float: right;">Bon Secours</span>						
<b>2. LOCATION</b>						
STREET AND NUMBER:						
CITY OR TOWN: <span style="float: right;">Brookeville</span>						
STATE: <span style="float: right;">Maryland</span>			COUNTY: <span style="float: right;">Montgomery</span>			
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>						
<b>CATEGORY</b> (Check One)		<b>OWNERSHIP</b>		<b>STATUS</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<b>Public Acquisition:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<b>Yes:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)						
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments		
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____		
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>						
OWNER'S NAME: <span style="float: right;">Foreman</span>						
STREET AND NUMBER:						
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:			
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>						
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:						
<span style="float: right;">Montgomery County Courthouse</span>						
STREET AND NUMBER:						
CITY OR TOWN: <span style="float: right;">Rockville</span>			STATE: <span style="float: right;">Maryland</span>			
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):						
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>						
TITLE OF SURVEY: <span style="float: right;">Historic Sites in the Bi-County Region</span>						
DATE OF SURVEY: <span style="float: right;">1969</span>						
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local						
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:						
<span style="float: right;">The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission</span>						
STREET AND NUMBER:						
<span style="float: right;">8787 Georgia Avenue</span>						
CITY OR TOWN: <span style="float: right;">Silver Spring</span>			STATE: <span style="float: right;">Maryland</span>			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:23-54

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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

The house is a two-story, frame building with a three-bay, main(south) facade. The central entrance bay has tall sidelights flanking the doorway and transom light; solid wall (rather than mouldings or architrave), divides the doorway from the lights. The ground floor windows are 8/12 double-hung sash with heavy central muntins giving the appearance of double windows. The second floor windows have semi-circular arched heads. The central bay has three lights; the central taller and wider than those flanking; all three have 4/4 double hung sash. The side bay windows are 8/8 double hung sash with heavy central muntins. The front porch is two stories with a pedimented roof supported by square columns. The eaves are plain.

To the north is a two story wing with a three bay east facade. The two north bays are doors with narrow transom lights. Windows are 6/6 double hung sash.

Large chimneys rise along the central hall walls in the main house block. The chimneys of the rear wing are small and of recent construction.

Outbuildings include a frame bankbarn on a stone foundation, a double corn crib, a frame icehouse and a stone springhouse.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:23-54

**B. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input 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)

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/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M: 23-54  
Bon Secours

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

(addendum)

SPECIFIC DATES 1855

(From Farquhar, 1962, History of Montgomery County, pp. 104-105)

Although mere seasonal occupancy had been first intended the ominous development of the civil conflict in the year after construction led Nicholas Griffith and his wife Mary Susan (Jones) Griffith, who were already identified with this part of Montgomery County, to assume permanent residence at "Bon Secours." Thus the house has been continuously occupied for just over 100 years.

Nicholas B. Griffith received title to the 172 acres by conveyance of March 13, 1860, from his friends John Brewer and George Peter, representing Elizabeth B. Watkins, surviving wife of Gassoway Watkins. (Earlier this land, apart of the Addition to Brooke Grove, had derived from Thomas Brooke to a niece, Dorothy Brooke, via a trustee, General Hopkins (1794).) Following the Griffith acquisition, this property was next conveyed in 1871 by Mary S. Griffith to Daniel Gaither, and was confirmed to him by Charles C. Hutton and Richard Waters. It was held by Solomon E. Yearly from 1885 to 1905 when Samuel Riggs acquired it. He conveyed the property to his son, Douglas H. Riggs, in 1915 following the marriage of Douglas to Chloe Landsdale. In 1937 it was acquired by Mabel G. Hanscom and her husband. They conveyed to the present owners, Elizabeth Herndon and Sydney Rhodes Prince, Jr., in 1945, just after World War II ended.

The present owner, Mr. Prince is the ninth descendant of Edward Prince, who was the first landowner of what is now the City of Petersburg, Virginia. (Tyler's Quarterly Magazine, Vol. XVI, p. 50; and W&MQ, Vol. 3, 2nd series, pp. 10-11.) Mr. Prince has two sons, Sydney R. III, married Anne Macpherson, October 7, 1961; and Robin H., both graduates of Princeton and University of Virginia.

M:23-54

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Farquahar, pp. 104-105

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:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

11 Nov. 74

STREET AND NUMBER:

8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

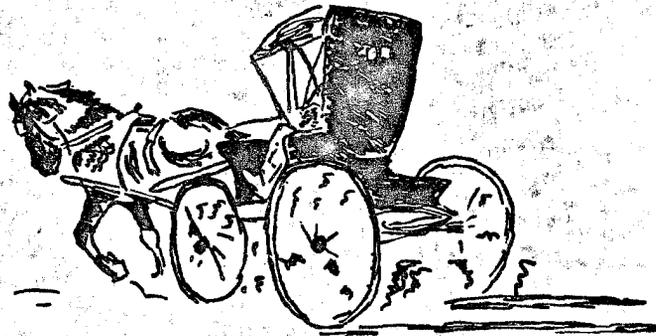
Significance of this property is:

National  State  Local

State Firemen's Association. After twenty years as owner, Brown in 1945 sold the home to David A. Shober, who in 1950 resold to Perry Patterson, a Washington attorney, the owner.

Mr. and Mrs. Patterson have six children, one son at the University of Virginia, and three boys and one girl in Sherwood. One girl is not in school as yet. Mr. Patterson obtained his

law degree from Georgetown University, and feels at home in Sandy Spring. Mrs. Patterson, went to George School, and has many ties in the area and expresses pleasure that they were able to find a picturesque, and cherished, aged home, of charm, with a few acres of garden and lawn, with an old spring house, in the setting, enshrined in ancient trees.



GOOD OLD HORSE AND BUGGY DAYS

By R. H. Farquhar

## Bon Secours

THE picture shows the East side of the manor house unchanged since its construction just prior to the Civil War. It was built by Nicholas Griffith, a well-established tobacco broker in Baltimore. Both the frame and the Dutch siding are of fir imported by "Clipper" from the West Coast, thence hauled from Baltimore by oxen.

This house, originally known from its trees as "Hollywood," was intended only as a summer retreat, but the advent of the war dictated its immediate occupancy on completion early in 1861. It is believed that the family were Southern sympathizers. Fortunately it had been solidly constructed with a triple wall resting upon a complete stone foundation. Although architecturally it is a "main" house, to the South, and a "wing," to the North, all of it was constructed at one time. The "wing," of course, does not share the "plantation-house" dimensions and appointments of the main house; namely, twelve foot windows, fourteen foot ceilings, random width heart pine floors, arches, and several double doors having hinges which

are literally silver plated—i.e., hinges covered with separate plates of solid silver.

The spaciousness of the interior of this house is also evidenced in the wide main hallway traversing the house from front to back, in normal plantation-house style. A distinguished stairway of black walnut (with persimon wood risers) is swung upward in the back hall, somewhat in the manner of the famous stairway of the Carters at "Shirley" on the James River. Also notable on the first floor is a handsome three-sided dormer window, overlooking a large meadow—this was clearly the nearest thing 100 years ago to today's "picture-window." The marble mantels of the fireplaces in the two downstairs living rooms, as well as the one in the commodious dining room, are all originals. At least one is Italian marble. All five floral medallion chandelier-bases of plaster on the first floor ceilings are originals. (The future preservation of these beautiful medallions—dependent on aging plaster ceilings—presents a trying problem.) An original chandelier hangs in the dining room. The gold leaf frame of the baronial

M.23-54



NO. 131 D-9 NICHOLAS GRIFFITH 1855 FRAME

mirror in the West room was carved on the premises in 1860 by the Bavarian craftsman who was also responsible for the medallions.

Upstairs in the "main house" there are three master bedrooms, each having a fireplace and original mantels. The high ceilings upstairs are matched by great windows which reach low toward the floor. The capacious upstairs hall and the open well of the staircase indicate the architect's awareness of air circulation principles.

The "wing" was rebuilt in 1958 with all of its original integrity following severe tornado-damage to it. While limited changes were made inside the "wing" to accommodate tile bathrooms and central air conditioning, no change of any kind was made in the exterior—to that end the contractor found it necessary to have the clapboards of "Dutch siding" (double interlocked) specially milled. In the "wing" the style of the country pantry with original fireplace and pot hook were not altered.

Although mere seasonal occupancy had been first intended the ominous development of the civil conflict in the year after construction led Nicholas Griffith and his wife Mary Susan (Jones) Griffith, who were already identified with this part of Montgomery County, to assume permanent residence at "Bon Secours." Thus the house has been continuously occupied for just over 100 years.

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#23-54

NAME BON SECOURS

LOCATION BROOKVILLE-MT. ZION RD, BROOKVILLE, MD.

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 11/11/74

M. DWYER



#23-54

NAME BON SECOURS - BARN

LOCATION BROOKEVILLE - MT. ZION RD., BROOKEVILLE, MD.

FACADE SW

PHOTO TAKEN 11/11/74

M. DWYER