

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED 10.18.76
DATE ENTERED DEC 12 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC WORTHINGTON VALLEY HISTORIC DISTRICT *2*

AND/OR COMMON WORTHINGTON VALLEY HISTORIC DISTRICT

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER West of Falls Road; South of Shawan Road; Tufton & Worthington Avenue and east of Baltimore Gas & Electric right of way.

CITY, TOWN Between Glyndon & Shawan VICINITY OF Second

STATE Maryland CODE 24 COUNTY Baltimore CODE 005

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Multiple public and private owners

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN VICINITY OF STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Baltimore County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER Washington Avenue

CITY, TOWN Towson STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Baltimore County Landmarks (partial)

DATE FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Baltimore County Historical Society

CITY, TOWN Cockeyville STATE Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

From its initial settlement in the mid-18th century to the present, the Worthington Valley has been an agricultural area. Today, it is virtually a pocket in the suburbia which is creeping over the face of the land. Only ten miles from the northern limits of Baltimore City, one of the East Coast's largest metropolitan areas, the Worthington Valley more than any other area has retained its original appearance of open spaces, wide fields and pastures, uncut woodlands, rolling hills and rushing streams. Dwellings are few and far between so that one can barely see one house from another. There are few commercial establishments: one store and gas station at the intersection of Falls and Shawan Roads. Falls Road is the only thoroughfare in the district. Even fences do not intrude, for they are mainly board or split rail and less visible than modern chain-link types. Roads do not exceed a narrow two lanes in width, a scale in perfect harmony with the land. The soil is in a high state of cultivation, most of it planted in grain crops or devoted to horse and cattle breeding. St. John's Episcopal Church and, to a lesser extent, Dover Methodist Church are still the focal points of community life as they have been since their establishment.

Horse breeding and racing is a very large and lucrative business. There are sixteen registered thoroughbred horse farms in this district. Probably the best known is Sagamore Farm where the great race horse and stallion Native Dancer was raised. A champion and sire of many champions, he is the grandsire of that magnificent but ill-fated filly Ruffian, whose dam was raised at nearby Locust Hill Farm.

Since 1922, Snow Hill and Worthington Farms have been the scene of the Maryland Hunt Club Steeplechase, one of the most famous and unique sporting events of national and international fame. From the first race in 1894 to the present, it has grown to be recognized worldwide as the greatest test of horse and man over post and rail timber fences. For years it has been traditional for families and friends to gather with their picnic baskets to watch this one race that takes eight or nine minutes from start to finish. It has always been open to all and free of charge.

Settlement in the Worthington Valley began in the mid 18th century but structures of this period are, not surprisingly, extremely rare. The earliest were undoubtedly small, simple, hasty and crude. The few standing structures which do date from the 18th century date from the very end of that century: Bloomfield, Welcome Here and Locust Hill. Their early date is proved by their hand-made nails and their identification in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax records which contain the first description of any significant number of Maryland buildings. That remarkable document, which recorded the measurements, number of storeys

See continuation sheet # 1.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the Worthington Valley lies in its unaltered, rural atmosphere which has not changed appreciably in over two hundred years. The land is divided into numerous farms, some up to 200 or 300 acres in extent. Many properties have been inherited by the present owners who are endeavoring to run them as in the past, retaining the open spaces and restoring and occupying the substantial homes which dot the countryside. It has not always been thus: following a period of settlement and rapid growth in the 18th and 19th centuries, there occurred a time of depression and financial strain in the latter part of the 19th century when many of the large family estates fell into disrepair and were sold to others. During the 1930's and 1940's, still more change took place and there began an exodus from the more densely populated area to the south into the Valley. Those who came were people appreciative of the qualities of the soil, especially for raising horses. Some of them are still living there as are many of their children. They have restored the dwellings and revitalized the farming operations. But they are, for the most part, businessmen rather than full-time farmers as were the early occupants of the district.

The Worthington Valley is situated on land which was patented in four parts:

- Melinda, surveyed in 1706 for William Talbott (400 acres)
- Welshes Cradle, surveyed in 1706 for Cornelius White (2000 acres)
- Nicholson's Manor, surveyed in 1712 for William Nicholson (4200 acres)
- Shawan Hunting Ground, surveyed in 1714 for Thomas Todd (1500 acres)

These tracts were generally patented shortly after they were surveyed with the exception of Welshes Cradle which was not patented until 1740.

The land was mostly woodland with a good supply of limestone just below the surface of the soil, making it fertile and productive, especially for growing wheat and corn. An Indian road led through the western part of the valley, probably to near the site of Mantua Hills. (1) Indian arrowheads have been found in the district, but no archaeological

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allen, Ethan, Rev. "St. John's Church in the Valley, Western Run Parish, Record Book. 1810-1892." Bound Transcript. Copied by Christopher Johnston. 1906. Maryland Historical Society

Baltimore, Its History and Its People. Lewis Historical Publishing Co. (New York, 1912). v.2.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 8,000 acres
 UTM REFERENCES

F	A	18	B	4	7	33	0	4	3	77	23	0	A	B	18	35	0	3	8	0	4	3	7	85	14	0
ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING			ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING											
B	C	18	3	51	5	80	4	3	7	6	58	0	C	D	18	35	3	28	0	4	3	7	2	74	0	
ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING			ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING											

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See continuation sheet # 11

D E 18/348100/4368970

E F 18/344410/4373050

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

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

ORGANIZATION Worthington Valley Historic District Project DATE January 1, 1976

STREET & NUMBER 1114 Bellemore Road TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN Baltimore STATE Maryland

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE *John H. Pearce* DATE *10/6/76*

TITLE *State Historic Preservation Officer* DATE

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ACTING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION *[Signature]* DATE *12/12/76*

ATTEST: *[Signature]* DATE *11-26-76*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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and building material of every dwelling house and outbuilding, indicates that most houses of the Worthington Valley were quite small, but all the known building materials were represented: log, stone, frame and brick. The area had been settled for only about half a century so many of the dwellings recorded were undoubtedly the first to be built on the land. Of the few larger and more substantial dwellings recorded, some undoubtedly burned or have otherwise disappeared and only three, then, among the largest and most valuable in the region, have been identified positively. The majority were not considered worthy of retention as the region prospered and grew in the 19th century.

These three early structures were substantial but conservative, characteristics which have marked most dwellings in the region since that time. In the past, in spite of any affluence owners may have enjoyed, nature was the all-powered influence on lives and the securing of food was man's basic quest. Accordingly, unless an overwhelming reason suggested otherwise, the dwelling house had its long principal facade to the south, the sunniest, warmest exposure in the cold winter. Every dwelling was supported by a small number of outbuildings, in addition to major barns, the function of which was related to the preparation and preservation of food. The southerly exposure and supporting outbuildings remained typical characteristics of Maryland farm dwellings until central heating made the former unnecessary and canning, refrigeration, chemical preservatives and rapid transportation made the latter obsolete. Southerly orientations of dwellings are seldom changed but obsolescence has made outbuildings and other structures erected for purely functional purposes rare. An area which retains a number of these buildings, as does the Worthington Valley, assumes greater significance.

Early kitchens in Maryland were, like those in other southern regions, in separate buildings. Maryland has been a transitional area in many ways, and her domestic architecture is no exception. Many early Maryland kitchens, particularly in northern Maryland, were in basements, like their counterparts in more northerly regions of America. As technology allowed the cooking process to progress from an open fire to the enclosed range, the kitchen was incorporated as part of the same structure and on the same floor as the dwelling. Tradition was strong, however, and throughout the 19th century the kitchen was usually expressed as a wing, structurally distinct from the principal dwelling,

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but attached and constructed in the same building effort. A tradition persists that the kitchen wings of many houses are the original dwellings on the property (undoubtedly accepted because of their more primitive detailing and lower ceilings) but in most cases, structurally they can be proven to be contemporary with the dwelling, frequently constructed in actual sequence, after the dwelling, but as part of the same building effort.

Bloomfield and Welcome Here are both brick, the man-made material which may have indicated greater sophistication than stone and certainly more than wood or log. Brick construction recalls traditions of the Tidewater regions from whence the earliest settlers came and the use of Flemish bond only on the principal facade indicates their late 18th Century date. Locust Hill is of stone, recognized then as now as a substantial material but not so elegant as brick. Stylistically these dwellings closely resemble comparable structures in the Tidewater region and their interior detailing, including some paneling in principal rooms, suggests that their inhabitants lived as well as their equal contemporaries in Tidewater.

Stamford, a large brick house with extensive period woodwork inside, is in all respects of the late 18th century in style: it has not been identified in the 1798 records so it may have been built just after that assessment. Stamford retains more of its smaller supporting outbuildings than any other property in the region.

In earlier times the Worthington Valley was considered a long way from urban centers of style such as Baltimore, Annapolis or Philadelphia. Accordingly its 19th century architecture was more a continuation of the 18th century than a development of the vogues of urban areas. Technological advances were not ignored, however, and the machine-cut nail replaced the hand-wrought nail early in the 19th century, indicating the importance of that development in the construction of buildings. Only the smallest details, such as particular moulding profiles and the nails identify Goshon, McHenry Tenant House and Melinda as early 19th century structures. The first two are of stone, the last of brick, Flemish bond still but on the principal front only. The original portion of Shawan belongs to this period and it exhibits a more stylish interior. Three of its exterior walls are of Flemish bond brick, including one side of its kitchen wing. Mary's Meadows additions belong to this period, in frame, at which time the earlier stone house was refinished internally.

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By the 1820-40 period the second, third and fourth generation inhabitants required new dwellings and some replaced the earlier small ones with more substantial ones worthy of their prosperity. Belmont, Dover House, the Hobb House (Northwest Farms), Locust Hill, Melinda's Prospect, Snow Hill, and Talhof belong to this period. They retain the traditionalism of the earlier group with few stylish 19th century influences. Locust Hill is mentioned again here because the earlier pre-1798 house was enlarged and internally restyled in this period. Belmont, Melinda's Prospect and Snow Hill continue the brick tradition but Snow Hill is all in common bond. Dover House is of stone, originally a combination dwelling and store, related to the milling industry nearby; it has a datestone (1824) making it a valuable guide for the dating of other structures in the region. Talhof and/or the small stone structure immediately to its north was a tavern in the 19th century. The main house, dated 1825, has a small frame wing projecting to the very edge of the road, probably related to the combination tavern-dwelling function of this building. The principal dwelling on the Worthington Farms has disappeared but the early 19th century massive barn of stone, brick and frame construction and the substantial stone dairy house bespeak the importance of the dwelling house which once stood nearby.

Montmorenci, Mantua Farm and Bellevue, all of stuccoed stone, reflect conservative detailing of the Greek-revival but their basic forms remain traditional. Montmorenci may pre-date its Greek detailing; a few changes are evident and extensive 20th century Georgian detailing has superceded some earlier work, particularly externally. A small cellar beneath Bellevue may relate to an earlier structure recorded there in 1798, not otherwise in evidence. The Rectory of St. John's Church, dating from 1842-43, incorporates some very conservative Greek revival detailing in an otherwise very traditional house of stone. Stonecoat, Black Patch (now Thornhill Farm), Huntley & Millstone Farm date from the middle of the 19th century, of very simple basic designs with datable elements confined to a few ornamental details and such technological items as hardware. Millstone Farm and Huntley both have kitchen wings with shed-roofs perpendicular to the main house, relating them to earlier Stamford, and one of the stone Caples Houses. Other kitchen wings are similarly built near this district and in Carroll, Frederick and Washington Counties, and in Pennsylvania. This particular form is not characteristic of Tidewater Maryland. Several very small structures survive from the early 19th century, one the house of a farmer of moderate means, the others houses of millworkers: Church
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Farm house and the two log and three stone (one possibly a duplex) Caples Houses at Dover. The Leser House was probably a tenant house or dwelling of a farmer of modest means, somewhat later than the others.

The Dover Church and Geist Meeting House, dating from 1842 and 1850 respectively, illustrate the simplicity then advocated by their respective Protestant denominations. Their basic designs barely differ from small rural church designs of the previous century and only the scarce mouldings employed in their construction betray their true date. The Geist Houses, like the Meeting House, illustrate a philosophy of absolute simplicity and utility.

The Mantua Mill House was originally a traditional brick house, all in common bond, with a low-pitched roof and simple wide roof overhang all around, barely recalling some elements of the Italianate style. The Octagonal House undoubtedly follows a published design of the mid-19th century when the novelty of polygonal houses enjoyed some popularity. Identifiable details conservatively relate this example to the Italianate period. Western Run Farm house is an utterly traditional stone house, dated 1860, the details of which can be assigned to no particular revival style: they relate only to the mid-19th century.

St. John's Episcopal Church is a very excellent example of the Gothic-revival, a style particularly suited to and first popularized by the Episcopal Church, the American successor to the established Church of England. This relatively early (1867) and accurately rendered example of medieval English architecture was embellished with additional carefully rendered Gothic detailing, primarily internally, in 1927.

With the exception of St. John's Church and the other conservative examples mentioned herein, the many revival styles of the 19th century are virtually non-existent. This may be attributed to few divisions of the land in the last half of the 19th century, a conservative approach to building design which accepted the substantial dwellings existing on the land by mid-century and/or an economic plain reached by mid-century which did not encourage new building or land subdivision with its resultant new building. The Robert Caples Farmhouse is an ample, simple farm dwelling dating from ca. 1900, an example of a practical farmer-builder achieving six rooms in a traditional and logical manner with minimal ornamentation. The sharp gable centered on the principal front relates this house to a slightly earlier Gothic revival practice, used with equal frequency by Italianate designers as well, all possibly descended from the pediments employed on the

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great houses of the 18th century, a feature appearing in many 18th century English design books.

The automobile brought the Worthington Valley within commuting range of Baltimore City and through the 20th century most of the land has been owned by persons able and willing to preserve the older structures and maintain the large tracts of land without subdividing it for the construction of new houses.

Several older houses received substantial additions in the first half of the 20th century, mostly in the style of the original but sometimes with some earlier detailing: occasionally they incorporated distinguished details from early houses being demolished with the commercial and industrial expansion of Baltimore: Belmont, Melinda, Montmorenci, Shawan, Mantua Mill House, Mantua Farm, Snow Hill, and Western Run Farm. Snow Hill was gutted by fire in the 20th century, so its interior is of that period.

Most of the 20th century structures in the region were designed in the manner of the 18th century or early 19th century. Several distinguished examples by noted Baltimore architects, take their place among the best residential structures of the first half of the 20th century. Bristol House Meadow Run, and Piney Grove Farm are new designs adapted from the best 18th century New York architecture. Sunny Hill Farm is an adaptation of a late medieval Cotswold (England) House. These all date from before the Second World War. Continuing this tradition after the war, the Tinsley House is an adaptation of a late 17th or early 18th century farmhouse in Northern France and it incorporates the stone walls of an earlier very simple farmhouse. The A.W. Brewster House continues the tradition of adapting 18th and early 19th century American architecture to the modern dwelling.

Contemporary design in the third quarter of the 20th century is represented by several distinguished examples: Arrusi, the Winkenwarder House, Wit's End and wings on Thornhill Farm and Stonecote. All incorporate traditional forms and materials, reinterpreted, fitting into the landscape with their distinguished neighbors and ancestors.

The retention of the Worthington Valley as an undeveloped agricultural area is of prime concern to the residents, many of whom have inherited their properties. The fear of intrusion of real estate developments brought about as a result of the increased cost of maintaining

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large farms and by high property taxes, especially inheritance taxes. A second fear which is ever-present is that the two main eastwest roads, Tufton Avenue and Butler Road, may be widened. The building of a large cloverleaf at the intersection of Shawan Road and Interstate Highway # 83, 2 1/4 miles to the east, will certainly increase the flow of traffic on Tufton Avenue and may eventually necessitate its widening into a major artery leading to the busy Reistertown Road corridor. In addition to the impact on several of the most important houses in the district, this would adversely affect the Maryland Hunt Cup racecourse which lies along the south side of Tufton Avenue.

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excavations have been made. The area immediately to the north of Butler Road was known as Lord Baltimore's Reserve and the Indians were given hunting and fishing rights there.

Between 1706 and 1751, a total of fifty-five grants were surveyed and patented. Most of the men who took up these patents appear to have come into the area from southern Maryland, especially Anne Arundel County. Their motive for doing so was undoubtedly economic. The tobacco economy of the southern counties was at best risky and the soil had become depleted. With the establishment of Baltimore Town as a port offering greater accessibility to the grain shippers than did Eldridge Landing, Baltimore and Howard Counties opened up to settlement. The Ellicott brothers who moved from Pennsylvania and established mills on the Patapsco River during the 1770's were largely influential in persuading tobacco growers to switch to wheat, corn, oats, and rye. The 1810 population census of Baltimore County stated that there were four mills in this area which ground 20,000 bushels of grain annually. (2)

The Worthington family bought up the patent for Welshes Cradle in 1740. Samuel and William Worthington, the purchasers, were sons of Captain John Worthington of Greenbury Forest on the Severn River, Anne Arundel County. William died in 1750 and Samuel, in time, inherited all of Welshes Cradle. Settling in the Valley with his large family (22 children), Samuel added to his land holdings and built Montmorenci and Bloomfield, both in the Tidewater Maryland style to which he was accustomed. Several of Samuel Worthington's children also built houses in the Valley: Charles (Belmont) and Walter (Shawan). Welcome Here, probably the oldest house extant, became a Worthington property when purchased in 1809 by John Tolley Worthington. The family remained in the area and married into the other families there. Although the Worthingtons have sold all their original homes, descendents of the family still occupy some of the farms in the district.

The Nicholson's Manor patent was for an irregularly shaped tract which extended from west of Welshes Cradle eastward almost to Cockeysvill surrounding Shawan Hunting Ground on three sides. It was patented to William Nicholson, an Anne Arundel merchant, who died soon afterward. His heirs sold the land in 1757 to four men: Kinsey Johns, Brian Philpot, Jr., Roger Boyce and Corbin Lee. They divided the Manor into twelve lots, each taking three non-contiguous lots. Lee and Boyce
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soon sold their interests to Johns & Philpot who improved the properties and occupied them.

The Johnses were descended from Richard Johns of Calvert County, a Welsh immigrant. Several members of the family intermarried with the Worthingtons and built fine homes. At the time of his death John Tolley Johns owned Dover, Snow Hill and Bellevue.

Brian Philpot, Jr. established his family at Stamford, now the Green Spring Valley Hounds. He married the daughter of his neighbor, Jeremiah Johnson, and his grist mill was located on the Western Run at Mantua Hills. The Philpots also owned Mantua Hill House. Members of the family continued to occupy Stamford until about 1925.

Melinda was bought by Charles Cockey in 1713. His father had moved from Anne Arundel County to Garrison and settled there. The Cockeys built both Melinda and Melinda's Prospect. They are a large family with many farms throughout the county. Descendents of Charles Cockey held Melinda's Prospect until 1929.

The fourth patent, Shawan Hunting Ground, was evidently settled more slowly than the others, according to tax information. The 1798 Federal Direct Tax Assessment lists only five tracts, but no houses of any substance. Prominent landowners included Ellin North Moale, the first child born in Baltimore Town. Her 1798 tax assessment lists only two small frame dwellings with no hint of their location. The McKim family, well known in Baltimore history, also owned property at Shawan Hunting Ground in the early 19th century. None of these buildings have been identified.

In summary, the Worthington Valley has a long and distinguished history as part of Baltimore County. Beginning as a wilderness, it was settled by far sighted men, many from southern Maryland, who appreciated the possibilities for cultivation of grain as opposed to tobacco, and the convenience of ample water-power for mills with a nearby port for shipment. A hardy people, the families who first opened up the virgin countryside continued to live there through numerous generations, some descendents still being residents in the district today. The district has benefited by the influx of new home-owners, during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, who have preserved the dwellings with sensitivity and who farm the land and cherish the

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open spaces and vistas around them.

- (1) Marye, William B. "The Old Indian Road". Maryland Historical Magazine v.15. p.353.
- (2) 1810 Population Census, Baltimore County, Md. Back River Upper Hundred. p. 702

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Worthington Valley
Historic District
Baltimore County

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Verbal Boundary Description.

The Worthington Valley Historic District boundaries begin on the center of the stream east of Shawan (intersection of Falls Road and Shawan Road) and follow the stream south to Oregon Branch; then east along the center of Oregon Branch to Falls Road roughly 1500 feet to a line making the 600 feet above sea level; then following the 600 foot elevation west crossing Dover Road, Waterspan Run, to Worthington Avenue; then in a line roughly southwest across Park Heights Avenue to the 600' elevation line; then following the 600' elevation line west across Garrison Forrest Road, across a branch of Councilman's Run, across Bonita Avenue, to a point 2,000' south of the intersection of Worthington Avenue and Longnecker Road, then in a straight line north to Longnecker Road and north along the center of Longnecker Road to a point roughly 1,000 feet north of the intersection of Butler Road and Longnecker Road; then west in a straight line to the 600' elevation line then following the 600' elevation line in a northerly direction to but not including the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company right of way, then following the right of way northeast 5,500' to the 500' elevation line, then following the 500' elevation line to Longnecker Road; then north along Longnecker Road roughly 1500'; then east to the 600' elevation line, then following the 600' elevation line or the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company right of way in a northerly direction across Dover Road to the right of way, then northerly along the right of way to the 500' elevation line, then following the 500' elevation line to a point roughly 500' above Piney Run; then in a straight line across Piney Run northeasterly for 3,000 feet to the 500' elevation line; then following the 500' elevation line northerly to Indian Run; then south down the center of Indian Run to Black Rock Run then south and east 5000' to Butler Road; then along the center of Butler Road northeast roughly 100' then northeast and then south following the rear property lines of the properties on the south side of Butler Road and the rear lines of the properties on the west side of Falls Road (thus eliminating the village of Butler) to a point roughly 1,000' south of the intersection of western Run Road and Falls Road, then from that point southerly following the center of Falls Road to the beginning (a point 1025' north of the intersection of Shawan Road and Falls Road).