

PH0026093

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland	
COUNTY: Prince George's	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.9.24.0012	DATE 9/10/71

1. NAME

COMMON:
Bellefields

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Sims Delight, Bellefield, Belle Fields

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
north side of Dudley Station Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Croom vic. (1.3 m. south)

STATE: **Maryland** CODE: **24** COUNTY: **Prince George's** CODE: **033**



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<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	Public Acquisition: <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
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>horse farm</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. and Mrs. John D. Bowling

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 3800 RFD #2

CITY OR TOWN: **Upper Marlboro** STATE: **Maryland** CODE: **24**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Prince George's County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
14735 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Upper Marlboro** STATE: **Maryland** CODE: **24**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Maryland Register of historic sites and landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: **1970** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:
94 College Avenue (Post Office Box 1704)

CITY OR TOWN: **Annapolis** STATE: **Maryland** CODE: **24**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Maryland**

COUNTY: **Prince George's**

ENTRY NUMBER: **71.9.24.0012**

DATE: **9/10/71**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

The 163 acre Bellefields estate is located on the north side of Dudley Station Road approximately three miles east of the intersection of Dudley Station Road and U. S. 301 which is roughly 6½ miles south of Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

Bellefields is composed of a central block of two stories plus attic, flanked by two small wings attached on the ends, of which one flanker was originally a school room. Built of Flemish bond with random glazed headers, all of the windows have splayed lintels of gauged-brick. Raised on a brick base, there is a simple water table, and a four-brick belt course above the first story; there are brick steps before the main (south) entrance and a brick entranceway at the north. This appears recent but may actually be an instance of the towered or pavilioned north side, such as on the garden (north) facade of the Paca House in Annapolis. The most conspicuous features are four tall chimney stacks which are on the exterior of the end walls, and there is one bay of windows between the two chimneys at each end. The main facade has five bays, and the wings each have three windows, and a south and north doorway respectively. The wood shingle roof is steeply pitched.

The only alteration appears to be the addition of window shutters. Perhaps shutters were put on the house at the time of erection. If so this would have been an early instance of their use in Maryland.

Pictured in Henry Chandlee Forman's Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland, Bellefields is lacking the original west wing which contained the kitchen pantry and service; thus the extant wing is recently built; also shown is the north entrance porch -- one story only in height.

This early example of a Maryland Georgian country house is symmetrical, of formal proportions but lacks ornamentation other than that formed by the brickwork (lintels, belt course, etc.). The main (south) doorway shows some evidence of change in the brickwork, but there are not indications of pilasters, dentiled cornices, etc. Due to fine condition, Bellefields represents a substantial Maryland house of about 1720.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) c.1720 before 1718, after 1735

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/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>local history</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" 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

Bellefields, begun between 1718 and 1735, first belonged to Patrick Sim, a Scottish immigrant. He came to America in 1715 fearing retribution for his role in the unsuccessful Scottish rebellion aimed at returning the Roman Catholic Stuarts to the English throne. He abandoned his Scottish estate "Kilcairn" and took up the original 2000 acre Sim's Delight tract. When he died Patrick Sim willed the house and land to his son, Colonel Joseph Sim (-1793).

From 1769-1793, Colonel Joseph Sim was actively and ideologically sympathetic toward independence for the colonies in America. He joined such men as Charles Carroll of Carrollton -- in the protest against English tariffs, through an Anne Arundel County Association petition (1774), and the ensuing Boston Tea Party. He worked with Thomas Johnson, William Paca and Samuel Chase in their common purposes for the Convention of Maryland, the Maryland Committee of Correspondence (1774-1775), the Council of Maryland (1777); and enjoyed a close relationship with his nephew Thomas Sim Lee, twice Governor of Maryland (1779-1782; 1792-1794). In 1780 Colonel Sim had served a second term in the General Assembly while the Articles of Confederation governed the United States.

In 1779 Colonel Joseph Sim gave his grandson, Joseph Sim, a one-hundred-forty-one acre portion of "Sim's Delight." Patrick Sim, son of Colonel Joseph Sim (-1793), also had obtained another portion of "Sim's Delight" which he subsequently sold to Benjamin Oden in 1794. Five years later Colonel Joseph Sim's grandson, Joseph Sim, relinquished his share of "Sim's Delight" to Benjamin Oden. After assembling the original tract, Oden gave it a new name -- "Bellefields."

Benjamin Oden (1762-1828) made a fortune as the administrator of the mercantile interests of Stephen West, Senior. In 1822 he married, at Bellefields, his second wife Henrietta Waring. Oden's daughter from his first marriage, Eliza Oden, was married at Bellefields on February 8, 1825 to Colonel William Duckett Bowie. William and Eliza Oden Bowie were the

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Recorders: William Morgan, Field Surveyor, Maryland Historical Trust, June 1969.
 Beth Grosvenor, Field Surveyor, Maryland Historical Trust, August 1969.
 Nancy Miller, Historian, Maryland Historical Trust, October 1969.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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	38°	44'	52.5"	76°	46'	49.5"			
NE	38°	44'	52.5"	76°	46'	29.5"			
SE	38°	44'	36.5"	76°	46'	29.5"			
SW	38°	44'	36.5"	76°	46'	49.5"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **64 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION: **Maryland Historical Trust** DATE: **Mar. 24, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:
94 College Avenue (Post Office Box 1704)

CITY OR TOWN: **Annapolis** STATE: **Maryland** CODE: **24**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 IV
Orlando Ridout IV
 Title State Liaison Officer for Maryland
State Liaison Officer for Maryland

Date APR 1 1971

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

Ernest A. Connolly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

SEP 10 1971

Date _____

ATTEST:
William J. Stewart
 Keeper of The National Register

Date JUN 29 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Prince George's	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.9.24.00/2	DATE 9/10/71

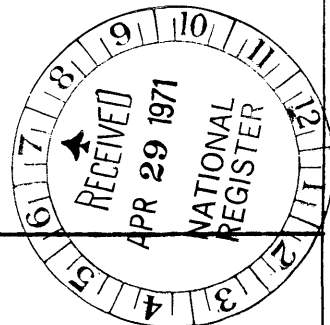
(Number all entries)

Bellefields

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

Historic American Buildings Survey

Library of Congress
Washington, D. C. code: 11



#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

parents of Governor Oden Bowie (1826-1894, Governor of Maryland from 1869-1872), a member of the Maryland Jockey Club, one of the founders of the Dinner Party Stakes run at Pimlico Race Course (1870) and of the Preakness Stakes.

Eliza Oden Bowie (Mrs. William Bowie) died in 1849. Five years later the widower, William Bowie, remarried; his second bride, Mary Oden, the daughter of Benjamin Oden, was his first wife's half sister.

Shortly after his second wedding in 1854 William Bowie gave his house "Fairview" to his son Oden Bowie. William Bowie and his second bride then moved to Bellefields which Mary Oden Bowie had inherited from her father Benjamin Oden. William Bowie spent the remainder of his life at Bellefields and turned the twelve-hundred acre estate into a famous, productive, Southdown sheep and Hereford cattle farm.

The ownership of Bellefields passed, after William Bowie's death, to his three daughters. In 1891 they sold the property. From that date until the end of the Second World War, Bellefields had five owners. In 1945 John Dominic Bowling purchased Bellefields and one-hundred-sixty acres and maintains a horse farm at Bellefields.

#9. REFERENCES continued

Bowie, Effie Gwynn. Across the Years in Prince George's County. Richmond: Garrett and Massie, 1947.

Bowling, Mrs. John D. Interview and personal records.

Earle, Swepson. Chesapeake Bay Country. Baltimore: Thomas-Ellis, 1923.

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Prince George's	
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ENTRY NUMBER 71.9.34.00.12	DATE 9/10/71

(Number all entries)

Bellefields

#9. REFERENCES continued

Forman, Henry Chandlee. Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland. Easton, Maryland: the author, 1934.

Prince George's County Schools. "A Research Action Project Devoted to Aspects of the History of Maryland and Prince George's County." typescript. Maryland State Library, Annapolis, Maryland. 1959.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Maryland From the Earliest Period to the Present Day. reprint. Hatboro, Pennsylvania: Tradition Press, 1967.



BRANDYWINE QUADRANGLE

MARYLAND

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

NE/4 BRANDYWINE 15' QUADRANGLE

47'30"

3.8 MI. TO U.S. 301
CROSS 0.3 MI.

870 000 FEET

76°45'

38



Lat. 38°44'52.5"
Long. 76°46'49.5"

Lat. 38°44'52.5"
Long. 76°46'49.5"

Lat. 38°44'50.5"
Long. 76°46'49.5"

Lat. 38°44'50.5"
Long. 76°46'49.5"

BRANDYWINE QUADRANGLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
Scale 1:24 000
1956

330
FEET

NAYLOR 0.7 MI.
8.3 MI. TO MD. 381

42'30"