

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

PG:84-20

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Bellevue

and or common Bellevue

2. Location

street & number 200 Manning Road East

N/A not for publication

city, town Accokeek N/A vicinity of Fifth Congressional District

state Maryland code 024 county Prince George's code 033

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
☐ district	☐ public	☒ occupied	☐ agriculture
☒ building(s)	☒ private	☐ unoccupied	☐ commercial
☐ structure	☐ both	☐ work in progress	☐ educational
☐ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	☐ entertainment
☐ object	☐ in process	☐ yes: restricted	☐ government
	☐ being considered	☐ yes: unrestricted	☐ industrial
	☒ not applicable	☒ no	☐ military
			☐ museum
			☐ park
			☒ private residence
			☐ religious
			☐ scientific
			☐ transportation
			☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Deming (Madeleine H.)

street & number P. O. Box 103

city, town Accokeek N/A vicinity of state Maryland 20607

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse

street & number Main Street

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20772

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust

Historic Sites Inventory

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ nodate 1974 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

PG:84-20

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources

Contributing

10001

Noncontributing

1 buildings0 sites1 structures0 objects2 Total

Number of previously listed National
Register properties included in this
nomination: 0

Original and historic functions and
uses: residential

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

Bellevue is a gable-roofed frame side-hall-and-double-parlor-plan plantation house of the second quarter of the nineteenth century. It consists of a two-and-one-half-story main block with two freestanding brick chimneys and pent, partially enclosed by a one-and-one-half-story kitchen wing; interior details are in the Greek Revival style. The house stands in a rural area east of Accokeek in southern Prince George's County, Maryland. Directly south of the house is a small 1930s outbuilding with horizontal board siding with an extended wooden-shingled gable roof. A partially open wood shed structure built in 1979 stands to the southeast.

For General Description, see Continuation Sheet No. 1

**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet Bellevue Prince George's County, MD Item number 7 Page 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Bellevue is situated at the end of a long unpaved lane south of Accokeek Road circa 2000 feet north of the Charles County line. The house is located in the westerly section of a five-acre lot, facing north toward landscaped grounds. There are woods to the north, south and east. This two-part frame dwelling consists of a two-and-one-half-story main block, with free-standing end chimneys and pent partially enclosed by an attached one-and-one-half-story kitchen wing.

The main block (circa 32 by 28 feet) is a two-and-one-half-story gable-roofed structure, three bays by two bays, with entrance in the first bay of the three-bay main north facade. Entrance is through a four-panel door with five-pane transom and five-pane sidelights. Beneath the side-lights are wainscot panels; pilasters flank the doorway. The door is sheltered by a twentieth-century neo-classical porch; its front pediment has frieze and crown molding. The porch rests on a new brick platform with a three-step approach. Its gable roof is supported by double square columns.

Windows in the main block are 6/6 double-hung-sash, have black louvered shutters, and are covered by iron grating. The building is covered with horizontal board siding and has vertical corner boards, all painted light beige. The main block has a plain boxed cornice, not continued at the gable ends. The roof is covered with (new) wooden shingles, and has (new) copper storm gutters. The building rests on a brick foundation (a course of rowlock atop six courses of common bond) which encloses a shallow crawl space.

At the west gable end of the main block are two tall exterior brick chimneys, with a projecting pent between them; both chimneys and pent are laid in American bond, with a random course of headers. The chimneys have weatherings at second story level; above the weatherings they are free-standing, circa one foot from the main block. The stacks, recently repointed, have one course of corbelling at the cap. There is a small six-pane single sash window in the north part which lights a small storage closet. The south part of the pent and the base of the southerly chimney are concealed by the kitchen wing which extends to the west. Between the stacks at loft level are two small 6/6 double hung sash windows, side by side; they have black louvered shutters. At the corresponding location in the east gable end is a similar (single) 6/6 double-hung sash window.

The interior of the main block consists of a side-stairhall (to the east) and adjoining double parlors. The open-string two-run stair rises against the east exterior wall, turns across the south end of the stairhall (dividing the second story window), and turns again to the second story. It has a heavy turned Greek Revival style newel, turned balusters, and bracketed outer string and panelled spandrel. Each of the two parlors is warmed by a fireplace in the west wall; the two identical wooden mantels have plain wide frieze with crown molding. Three small twentieth century horn-and-arrow decorations have been

**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet Bellevue Prince George's County, MD Item number 7 Page 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

applied to the frieze of each mantel. A wide doorway joins the two parlors; there is evidence of hinges in the jambs. Floor boards in the main block are wide and possibly original. Molding in the door and window surrounds is sharply-profiled multi-band, and Greek Revival in style; cornerblocks have a bulls-eye decoration with projecting center. There is a molded baseboard. A plastic, egg-and-dart molding has been applied, probably circa 1950, as a cornice decoration throughout the first story. The second story consists of a wide hall, with a newly installed bathroom (converted from a small bedroom) at the north front, and bedrooms over the parlors. The trim is identical to that on the first story. The stairway continues to be a finished loft space.

A one-story shed-roof addition has been built onto the west side of the south facade. This small study is accessible from the south parlor.

Attached at the west gable end of the main block, and enclosing the southerly stack and part of the pent, is a gable-roof kitchen wing, circa 15 by 21 feet. It is one-and-one-half-stories high, with steeply pitched gable-roof, and an exterior brick chimney with weatherings at its west gable end. The kitchen wing is covered with horizontal board siding, which appears to be hand split at the west gable end. It has a plain boxed cornice. The wing rests on a brick foundation which encloses a basement space. It has been suggested that this wing may predate the main block of the house; no evidence of this has been found, however, and the arrangement of chimneys and pent suggests that the kitchen was in fact attached shortly after the main block was built.

Most of the wing is taken up by the kitchen space, which has a large fireplace in the west interior wall. An antique wooden mantel, purchased by the present owners from another house and newly installed, adorns this fireplace. New narrow floorboards replace the original flooring, and the windows are modern. The south plane of the kitchen roof has been extended to cover an enclosed porch on the south facade of the kitchen wing. It adjoins and runs flush with the one-room south addition to the main block. From this enclosed porch, one can enter the small cellar room under the kitchen wing; those sill beams which are visible in the cellar appear to be hand hewn.

Directly south of the house is a small 1930s outbuilding with extended wooden-shingle roof. It is covered with rough horizontal board siding, painted white; entrance is in the north gable end. The building rests on a concrete foundation and probably dates from the early twentieth century. To the south-east is a partially-open shed built in 1979.

On the lawn immediately north of the house is a white ash tree estimated to be 250 years old.

8. Significance

PG:84-20

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400–1499	☐ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500–1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600–1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☐ 1700–1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☒ 1800–1899	☐ commerce	☐ exploration-settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900–	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates	ca. 1840	Builder/Architect	unknown
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: C
Applicable Exceptions: none
Significance Evaluated: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

Bellevue is a fine example of an early nineteenth century plantation house with decorative elements in the Greek Revival style. It was built circa 1840 and exemplifies a house style typical of successful small plantations of the period; it is one of only three surviving examples in Prince George's County of this once popular Tidewater house style. Bellevue is in excellent condition, and retains its freestanding chimneys with brick pent, as well as a roughly contemporary kitchen wing. It stands on a five-acre, partially wooded lot which exemplifies its original plantation setting. It is an important example of Prince George's County's early architectural history.

For History and Supporting Documentation, see Continuation Sheet No.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Bellevue

Continuation sheet Prince George's County, MD Item number 8 Page 3

HISTORY AND SUPPORT:

Bellevue stands on a tract known as "Strife," patented in 1694 by Col. John Addison.¹ In 1738, part of Strife was purchased by John Beall, and was later combined with other tracts to comprise the 572-acre late-eighteenth-century plantation of his son, Josias Beall.² Beall's home, a 32-foot-square frame building, stood, according to local tradition, at the site of the present house; it must have been destroyed early in the nineteenth century, although no record of its destruction has yet been discovered. The present house exhibits features of the Greek Revival style in the entrance treatment, the formal staircase, and the interior moldings, and its plan reflects one which was popular in Prince George's County in the 1840s; it was probably built by John H. Hardisty shortly after he purchased the 450-acre plantation (made up of "Strife and "Ridge") in 1839.³

This new dwelling was the home of the Hardisty family for nearly thirty years. During that period, Hardisty farmed the plantation, established a family graveyard near his new house, sold off 24 acres south of the house to the neighboring planter (John Manning), and renamed his 425-acre plantation "Bellevue."⁴ In 1868, at the age of 60, Hardisty made an exchange of his real estate with Henrietta and Thomas Marshall, turning over to them his Bellevue plantation, and taking over from them the "Marlborough House" hotel in Upper Marlborough. For the remaining decade of his life, John H. Hardisty owned and operated this prominent hotel in the county seat.⁵

The Marshalls apparently never lived at Bellevue; in debt from the outset, they defaulted in payments, and Bellevue was ordered sold by Equity Court decree. At the time of its sale in 1871, it was described as follows: "improvements consist of an excellent Dwelling House, containing eight rooms, Kitchen, Three Tobacco Houses, Stable, Carriage House, Ice House, etc."⁶ For the rest of the nineteenth century, Bellevue had a series of short term owners: in 1897 it was acquired by Reverend and Mrs. Rudolph Menk and was the home of the Menk family until 1938.⁷

During the 1930s and 1940s, much of the Bellevue property was divided and sold. The Hardisty family burial ground has probably been destroyed; it can no longer be located. Several small subdivisions of modern homes have been built to the west and the north. The old Bellevue plantation house stands on a five-acre lot in a rural area, set back more than one-quarter mile from the public road, and accessible by a wooded unpaved lane;⁸ it is a significant example of an early nineteenth-century plantation house style in southern Prince George's County, of which only a few survive.⁹

See Continuation Sheet No. 4 for Footnotes

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Bellevue

Continuation sheet Prince George's County, MD Item number 8 Page 4

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Footnotes

1. Patent Liber C #3:98.
2. Prince George's County Land Record, T:693.
3. 1798 Federal Direct Tax for Prince George's County, King George's Hundred; Prince George's County Land Record, AB#12:223.
4. 1850, 1860 Census Records for Prince George's County, Piscataway District; Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 1840-1868; Prince George's County Land Record, HB#1:65.
5. Prince George's County Land Records HB#1:65, 67, 69; FS#3:3; Census for Prince George's County, Marlboro District, 1870; Prince George's County Estate file #868.
6. Prince George's County Equity #810; Prince George's County Land Record HB#7:596.
7. Prince George's County Land Records, JWB#40:603; #188:464; and #512:387.
8. Prince George's County Land Records, #628:368; #4041:705; #4105:652; #4773:788. Plat SDH#4:15. Interview with present owners, October-November 1985.
9. Recent survey work in Prince George's County has identified only two other buildings of identical plan: Woodstock (82A-13), and the Turner House (87B-5). To each of these houses there is attached a lower kitchen wing which partially covers the exterior brick chimneys. In the case of the Turner House, the kitchen is a considerably later addition. Four other mid-nineteenth century dwellings, Buena Vista (70-17), Solitude (77-5), the Nourse House (77-11), and the Coffren House (86A-10) are similar to Bellevue, but have interior chimneys and/or alterations which have significantly changed the lines of the building.

CHAIN OF TITLE:

#4773:788 1 June 1977 Deed	Kenneth and Philippa Shores to Daniel and Madeleine Deming; 5.1 acres, south of Manning Road, in 5th Election District, also right of way
#4105:652 3 August 1972 Deed	Geraldine G. Wilson to Kenneth and Philippa Shores; 5.1 acres, same acquired by #4041:705

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
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Continuation sheet Bellevue Prince George's County, MD Item number 8 Page 5

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

CHAIN OF TITLE (continued)

#4041:705 3 Feb. 1972 Deed	Lenora C. Wilson to Geraldine G. Wilson, 5.1 acres which grantor acquired by #628:368
#628:368 9 Mar 1942 Deed	Raymond and Mary T. Johnson to Lenora Wilson; two parcels of land, of which #2 is 360.91 acres of Bellevue (acquired from Menk in 1938, and described also in #188:464); <u>minus</u> three exceptions including two graveyards which total not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ acre (described in JWB#40:603) leaving a residue to be hereby conveyed of 255 acres
#512:387 3 Sept 1938 Deed	Oswin and Hazel Menk, Theodore Menk, Martha Menk, and Gertrude Menk, all of D.C., to Raymond and Mary T. Johnson; two parcels of which #2 is 360.91 acres of Bellevue; minus three exceptions including two graveyards, leaving a residue to be hereby conveyed of 255 acres.
#188:464 25 Oct 1922 Deed	Eliza Menk, widow, to Oswin, Theodore, Martha, and Gertrude Menk; 360.91 acres of Bellevue conveyed by JWB#40:603.
JWB#40:603 24 May 1897 Deed	William, Caroline and James Underwood to Eliza Menk, wife of Rev. R. Menk of Illinois, for \$2400; 360.91 acres of Bellevue, formerly Strife and Ridge, acquired by JWB#37:745 and JWB#35:407. (except two graveyards)
JWB#37:745 8 Jan 1897 Deed	Thomas and Anna Underwood to William and James Underwood, for \$1050; 425 acres of Bellevue, formerly Strife and Ridge, part of land acquired by Thomas Marshall in 1823 by AB#2:533.
JWB#35:407 14 Jan 1896 Deed	Henry Benzinger, attorney, to Thomas Underwood, 425 acres of Bellevue; Benzinger appointed by Equity Court (#2190) to sell property of McShane, after default in mortgage.
#2190 Aug. 1895 Equity	John and Margaret McShane mortgaged property, Bellevue, and defaulted in payments; Henry Benzinger appointed to make sale of property; at sale, 8 Aug. 1895, Thomas Underwood is high bidder at \$1050, for 425 acres with "a well built two-story and attic Frame Dwelling with Brick foundation, large barn, Tenant House and other necessary outbuildings.

United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
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Continuation sheet Bellevue
Prince George's County, MD Item number 8 Page 6

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

CHAIN OF TITLE (continued)

JBW#18:262 30 Mar 1891 Mortgage	John and Margaret McShane to Metropolitan Savings Bank of Baltimore; 425 acres of Bellevue; McShane is indebted to Bank \$2000.
ATB#1:94 1879 Deed	Albert Mahone to John McShane, 425 acres of Bellevue
HB#9:553 1874 Deed	Henry and John McShane to Albert Mahone; 425 acres of Bellevue
HB#8:105 1873 Deed	Thomas Hume to Henry and John McShane; 425 acres of Bellevue
HB#7:596 1873 Deed	Samuel B. Hance, trustee, to Thomas L. Hume, 425 acres of Bellevue; Hance appointed by Equity Court (#810) to sell the property of Henrietta and Thomas Marshall, Bellevue, which they mortgaged to him in 1868, and then defaulted in payments.
#810 1868 Equity	Thomas L. Hume vs Henrietta and Thomas Marshall; Marshalls mortgaged their property, Bellevue, to S. B. Hance in 1868 (Hance assigned mortgage to Hume) and then defaulted in Mortgage payments; Hance appointed to sell property, Bellevue, 425 acres with "an excellent Dwelling House, containing eight rooms, Kitchen, three Tobacco Houses, Stable, Carriage House, Ice House, etc." and did sell to Thomas L. Hume, high bidder at \$4000.
HB#1:69 3 Feb 1868	Thomas and Henrietta Marshall to S. B. Hance to secure their debt (of \$3398.79) to him, their property, Bellevue 425 acres, acquired by them on this date.
HB#1:65 3 Feb 1868 Deed of Exchange	John H. Hardisty to Henrietta Marshall, wife of Thomas Marshall; his property, Bellevue, 425 acres (same property which Hardisty acquired by AB#12:223, 525 acres originally, but minus one parcel of 76 acres to Julianna White, AB#11:497, and another of 24 acres to John Manning, ON#1:385, reducing total acreage to 425 acres, and also excepting two burial grounds, separated from each other, one for whites and one for colored persons, not more than ½ acre total, with egress and ingress guaranteed to John Hardisty; this

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Bellevue

Continuation sheet Prince George's County, MD

Item number

8

Page

7

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

CHAIN OF TITLE (continued)

property, Bellevue, 425 acres, is Hardisty's present residence); and Marshalls in turn convey to Hardisty their interest in the Marlborough Hotel, which they acquired by HB#1:67 from S. B. Hance, trustee under Deed of Trust from Medley and Dyer, proprietors of said Hotel.

AB#12:223
19 April 1839
Deed

Richard H. and Harriet M. Marshall of Frederick County to John H. Hardisty of Prince George's County, for \$3500, part of two tracts, Strife and Ridge, which were conveyed to Thomas Marshall, deceased, father of Richard H. Marshall, by Mundell and McElderry, 1823 by AB#2:533 (except 76 acres sold to J. White)

AB#2:533
14 April 1823
Deed

Thomas Mundell and Hugh McElderry to Thomas Marshall of Charles County, 525 acres of Strife and Ridge, formerly lands of Josias F. Beall; grantors were appointed trustees to sell the real estate of Josias F. Beall, did sell to Thomas Marshall in 1817 for \$8268.75, payment has now been made, so trustees now execute this deed.

#140
1823
Old Equity

Thomas Marshall vs. McElderry and Mundell; McElderry and Mundell were appointed executors high bidder at sale of Beall's property; he now asks for legal conveyance of property.

TT#1:194
18 Nov 1816
Will

Testator, Josias Fendall Beall; devises to brother James Alexander Beall, to nephew, etc., residue of real estate to brother James Alexander Beall, executor.

JRM#17:52
22 July 1816
Deed of Trust

Josias F. Beall to Horatio McElderry, in trust, his lands including Strife and Ridge which he purchased from his two brothers, Robert A. and Benjamin B. Beall; to secure his debt to McElderry.

JRM#17:45
27 April 1816
Deed of Trust

Josias F. Beall to William Marshall and Thomas Mundell, in Trust, his lands, including Strife and Ridge which he purchased from his two brothers, Robert A. and Benjamin B. Beall, because Marshall and Mundell have cosigned not drawn by Beall.

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received

date entered

United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet Bellevue Prince George's County, MD Item number 8 and 10 Page 8

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

CHAIN OF TITLE (continued)

Unrecorded Deed Robert Augustus Beall and Benjamin Bradley Beall to their
21 Sept 1809 brother Josias Fendall Beall, for \$10,000, ca 800 acres in
Deed Prince George's and Charles Counties, including Strife

T#1:376 Testator, Josias Beall; to son Robert Augustus Beall, part
12 Mar 1803 of Strife, "whereon I live," plus adjoining lands in Prince
Will George's County; to John Bradley Beall, Ann Fendell Beall
and Benjamin B. Beall, other lands in Charles, Prince
George's and Montgomery Counties; to son Josias Fendall
Beall and son James Alexander Beall, remaining estate to be
divided equally; three sons, Robert A, Josias F., and James
A. Beall, executors.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Boundary Description: The boundary is delineated on the attached map.

Boundary Justification: The 425-acre plantation which John Hardisty purchased in 1839 extended from the Charles County line (Mattawoman Creek) north to the old Accokeek Road (District 5, Road #11, 1828 Road Survey). A subdivision of small residential lots (Bellevue Estates) has been developed to the west of the house site, but more than 200 acres to the north, south and east remain undeveloped and mostly wooded. The present 5.1 acre lot on which Bellevue stands is representative of the original acreage; it consists of approximately 2½ acres of woods on the east, through which a branch of the Mattawoman Creek runs, and, on the west, 2½ acres of lawn surrounding the house, which is accessible from the north by the old farm lane.

9. Major Bibliographical References

PG:84-20

See footnotes under section 8, Continuation Sheet No. 4.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 5.1 acresQuadrangle name Mount Vernon, Section I, VA-MDQuadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	8	3	2	5	8	5	0	4	2	8	0	8	9	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

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F

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G

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H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 8

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
-------	-----	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan G. Pearl, Principal Investigator, Historic Survey Projectorganization Historic Preservation Commission date January 1986street & number c/o County Planning Division, MNCPPC
14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive telephone (301) 952-3521city or town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20772

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



7-22-86

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

date

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Bellevue

and/or common Bellevue

2. Location

street & number 200 Manning Road East

☒ not for publication

city, town Accokeek

___ vicinity of

congressional district

4

state Maryland

county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	___ public	☒ occupied	___ agriculture
☒ building(s)	☒ private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial
	☒ not applicable	☒ no	___ military
			___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Daniel and Madeleine H. Deming

street & number P.O. Box 103

telephone no.: 292-5130

city, town Accokeek

state and zip code MD 20607

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse

liber 4773

street & number Main Street

folio 788

city, town Upper Marlboro

state MD 20772

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974

___ federal ___ state ☒ county ___ local

depository for survey records County Planning Division, M-NCPPC

city, town Upper Marlboro

state MD 20772

7. Description

Survey No.P.G.#84-20

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary Description

Bellevue is a gable-roofed frame side-hall-and-double-parlor-plan plantation house of the second quarter of the nineteenth century. It consists of a two-and-one-half-story main block with two freestanding brick chimneys and pent, partially enclosed by a one-and-one-half-story kitchen wing; interior details are in the Greek Revival style. To the south and east of the house are two twentieth century outbuildings. This complex of buildings stands in a rural area east of Accokeek in southern Prince George's County, Maryland.

General Description

Bellevue is situated at the end of a long unpaved lane south of Accokeek road circa 2000 feet north of the Charles County line. The house is located in the westerly section of a five-acre lot, facing north toward landscaped grounds. There are woods to the north, south and east. This two-part frame dwelling consists of a two-and-one-half-story main block, with free-standing end chimneys and pent partially enclosed by an attached one-and-one-half-story kitchen wing.

The main block (circa 32 by 28 feet) is a two-and-one-half-story gable-roofed structure, three bays by two bays, with entrance in the first bay of the three-bay main north facade. Entrance is through a four-panel door with five-pane transom and five-pane sidelights. Beneath the sidelights are wainscot panels; pilasters flank the doorway. The door is sheltered by a twentieth-century neo-classical porch; its front pediment has frieze and crown molding. The porch rests on a new brick platform with a three-step approach. Its gable roof is supported by double square columns.

Windows in the main block are 6/6 double-hung-sash, have black louvered shutters, and are covered by iron grating. The building is covered with horizontal board siding and has vertical corner boards, all painted light beige. The main block has a plain boxed cornice, not continued at the gable ends. The roof is covered with (new) wooden shingles, and has (new) copper storm gutters. The building rests on a brick foundation (a course of rowlock atop six courses of common bond) which encloses a shallow crawl space.

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G.#84-20

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400–1499	☐ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500–1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600–1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☐ 1700–1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☒ 1800–1899	☐ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900–	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates ca. 1840 Builder/Architect Unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Significance

Bellevue is a fine example of an early nineteenth century plantation house with decorative elements in the Greek Revival style. It was built circa 1840 and exemplifies a house style typical of successful small plantations of the period; it is one of only three surviving examples in Prince George's County of this once popular Tidewater house style. Bellevue is in excellent condition, and retains its freestanding chimneys with brick pent, as well as a roughly contemporary kitchen wing. It stands on a five-acre, partially wooded lot which exemplifies its original plantation setting. It is an important example of Prince George's County's early architectural history.

History and Support

Bellevue stands on a tract known as "Strife", patented in 1694 by Col. John Addison.¹ In 1738, part of Strife was purchased by John Beall, and was later combined with other tracts to comprise the 572-acre late-eighteenth-century plantation of his son, Josias Beall.² Beall's home, a 32-foot-square frame building, stood, according to local tradition, at the site of the present house; it must have been destroyed early in the nineteenth century, although no record of its destruction has yet been discovered. The present house exhibits features of the Greek Revival style in the entrance treatment, the formal staircase, and the interior moldings, and its plan reflects one which was popular in Prince George's County in the 1840's; it was probably built by John H. Hardisty shortly after he purchased the 450-acre plantation (made up of "Strife" and "Ridge") in 1839.³

This new dwelling was the home of the Hardisty family for nearly thirty years. During that period, Hardisty farmed the plantation, established a family graveyard near his new house, sold off 24 acres south of the house to the neighboring planter (John Manning), and renamed his 425-acre plantation "Bellevue".⁴ In 1868, at the age of 60, Hardisty made an exchange of his real estate with Henrietta and Thomas Marshall, turning over to them his Bellevue plantation, and taking over from them the "Marlborough House" hotel

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G.#84-20

cf. Notes, Item #8
cf. Chain of Title

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 5.1 acres (Tax Map #161, parcel 195)Quadrangle name Mount Vernon, Section I ; Piscataway, Sec.G Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

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 Susan G. Pearl, Principal Investigator, Historic Survey Projectorganization Historic Preservation Commission date January 1986street & number c/o County Planning Division, M-NCPPC telephone 952-352114741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drivecity or town Upper Marlborostate Maryland 20772

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

#7. Continued

At the west gable end of the main block are two tall exterior brick chimneys, with a projecting pent between them; both chimneys and pent are laid in American bond, with a random course of headers. The chimneys have weatherings at second story level; above the weatherings they are free-standing, circa one foot from the main block. The stacks, recently repointed, have one course of corbelling at the cap. There is a small six-pane single-sash window in the north part of the pent which lights a small storage closet. The south part of the pent and the base of the southerly chimney are concealed by the kitchen wing which extends to the west. Between the stacks at loft level are two small 6/6 double hung sash windows, side by side; they have black louvered shutters. At the corresponding location in the east gable end is a similar (single) 6/6 double-hung sash window.

The interior of the main block consists of a side-stairhall (to the east) and adjoining double parlors. The open-string two-run stair rises against the east exterior wall, turns across the south end of the stairhall (dividing the second story window), and turns again to the second story. It has a heavy turned Greek Revival style newel, turned balusters, and bracketed outer string and panelled spandrel. Each of the two parlors is warmed by a fireplace in the west wall; the two identical wooden mantels have plain wide frieze with crown molding. Three small twentieth century horn-and-arrow decorations have been applied to the frieze of each mantel. A wide doorway joins the two parlors; there is evidence of hinges in the jambs. Floor boards in the main block are wide and possibly original. Molding in the door and window surrounds is sharply-profiled multi-band, and Greek Revival in style; cornerblocks have a bulls-eye decoration with projecting center. There is a molded baseboard. A plastic, egg-and-dart molding has been applied, probably circa 1950, as a cornice decoration throughout the first story. The second story consists of a wide hall, with a newly installed bathroom (converted from a small bedroom) at the north front, and bedrooms over the parlors. The trim is identical to that on the first story. The stairway continues to a finished loft space.

A one-story shed-roof addition has been built onto the west side of the south facade. This small study is accessible from the south parlor.

Attached at the west gable end of the main block, and enclosing the southerly stack and part of the pent, is a gable-roof kitchen wing, circa 15 by 21 feet. It is one-and-one-half-stories high, with steeply pitched gable-roof, and an exterior brick chimney with weatherings at its west gable end. The kitchen wing is covered with horizontal board siding, which appears to be hand split at the west gable end. It has a plain boxed cornice. The wing rests on a brick foundation which encloses a basement space. It has been suggested that this wing may predate the main block of the house; no evidence of this has been found, however, and the arrangement of chimneys and pent suggests that the kitchen was in fact attached shortly after the main block was built.

#7. Continued

Most of the wing is taken up by the kitchen space, which has a large fireplace in the west interior wall. An antique wooden mantel, purchased by the present owners from another house and newly installed, adorns this fireplace. New narrow floorboards replace the original flooring, and the windows are modern. The south plane of the kitchen roof has been extended to cover an enclosed porch on the south facade of the kitchen wing. It adjoins and runs flush with the one-room south addition to the main block. From this enclosed porch, one can enter the small cellar room under the kitchen wing; those sill beams which are visible in the cellar appear to be hand hewn.

Directly south of the house is a small outbuilding with extended wooden-shingled gable roof. It is covered with rough horizontal board siding, painted white; entrance is in the north gable end. The building rests on a concrete foundation; it was constructed in the 1930's to house an electrical generator. A short distance to the southeast stands a partially-open donkey shed; it was built in the 1970's.

On the lawn immediately north of the house is a white ash tree estimated to be 250 years old.

#8. Continued

in Upper Marlborough. For the remaining decade of his life, John H. Hardisty owned and operated this prominent hotel in the county seat.⁵

The Marshalls apparently never lived at Bellevue; in debt from the outset, they defaulted in payments, and Bellevue was ordered sold by Equity Court decree. At the time of its sale in 1871, it was described as follows: "improvements consist of an excellent Dwelling House, containing eight rooms, Kitchen, Three Tobacco Houses, Stable, Carriage House, Ice House, etc."⁶ For the rest of the nineteenth century, Bellevue had a series of short term owners; in 1897 it was acquired by Reverend and Mrs. Rudolph Menk and was the home of the Menk family until 1938.⁷

During the 1930's and 1940's, much of the Bellevue property was divided and sold. The Hardisty family burial ground has probably been destroyed; it can no longer be located. Several small subdivisions of modern homes have been built to the west and the north. The old Bellevue plantation house stands on a five-acre lot in a rural area, set back more than one-quarter mile from the public road, and accessible by a wooded unpaved lane;⁸ it is a significant example of an early nineteenth-century plantation house style in southern Prince George's County, of which only a few survive.⁹

Notes

1 Patent Liber C #3:98.

2 Prince George's County Land Record, T:693.

3 1798 Federal Direct Tax for Prince George's County, King George's Hundred; Prince George's County Land Record, AB#12:223.

4 1850, 1860 Census Records for Prince George's County, Piscataway District; Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 1840-1868; Prince George's County Land Record, HB#1:65.

5 Prince George's County Land Records HB#1:65, 67, 69; FS#3:3; Census for Prince George's County, Marlboro District, 1870; Prince George's County Estate file #868.

6 Prince George's County Equity #810; Prince George's County Land Record HB#7:596.

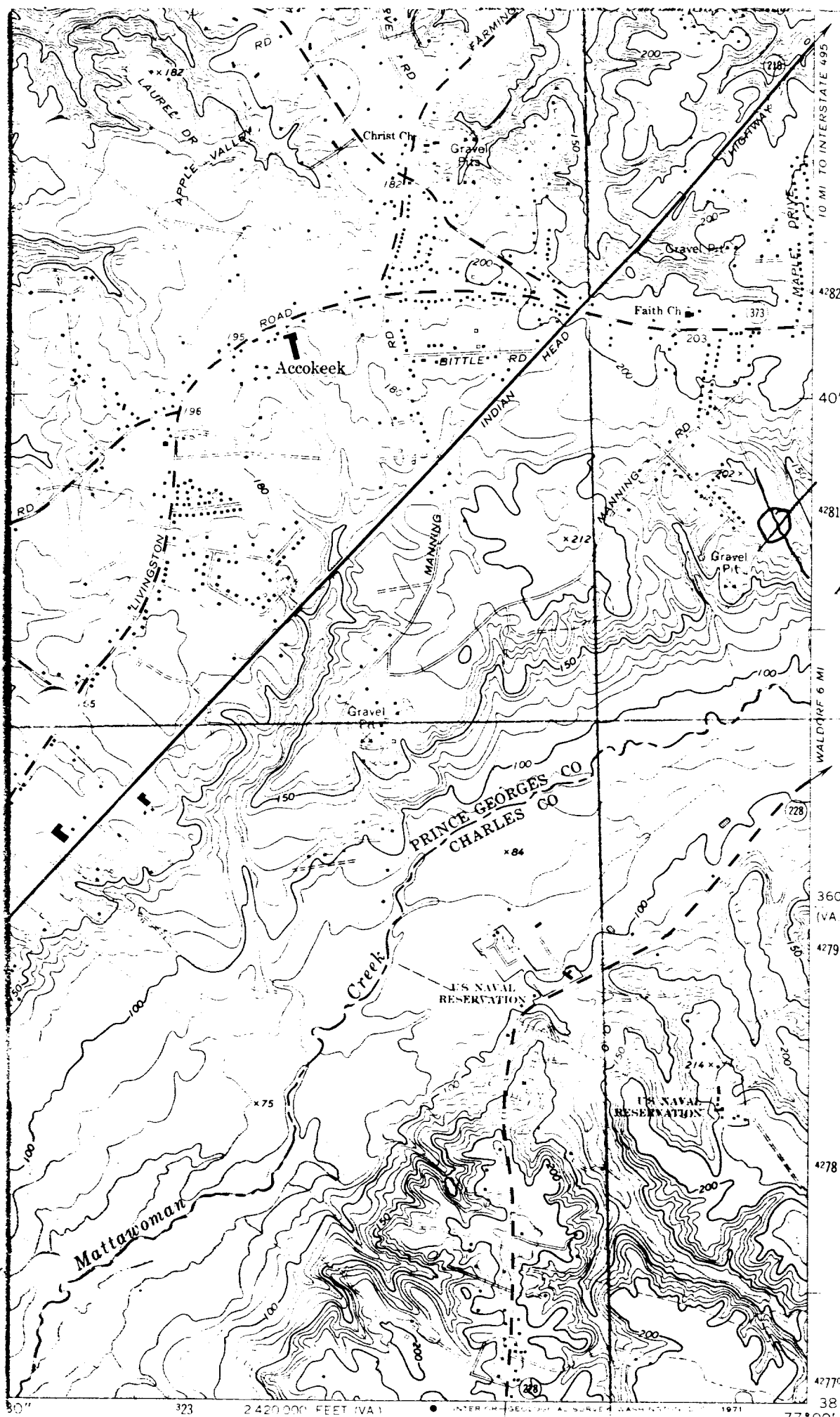
7 Prince George's County Land Records, JWB#40:603; #188:464; and #512:387.

8 Prince George's County Land Records, #628:368; #4041:705; #4105:652; #4773:788. Plat SDH#4:15. Interview with present owners, October-November 1985.

#8. Continued

9 Recent survey work in Prince George's County has identified only two other buildings of identical plan: Woodstock (82A-13), and the Turner House (87B-5). To each of these houses there is attached a lower kitchen wing which partially covers the exterior brick chimneys. In the case of the Turner House, the kitchen is a considerably later addition. Four other mid-nineteenth century dwellings [Buena Vista (70-17), Solitude (77-5), the Nourse House (77-11), and the Coffren House (86A-10)] are similar to Bellevue, but have interior chimneys and/or alterations which have significantly changed the lines of the building.

The 425-acre plantation which John Hardisty purchased in 1839 extended from the Charles County line (Mattawoman Creek) north to the old Accokeek Road (District 5, Road #11, 1828 Road Survey). A subdivision of small residential lots (Bellevue Estates) has been developed to the west of the house site, but more than 200 acres to the north, south and east remain undeveloped and mostly wooded. The present 5.1 acre lot on which Bellevue stands is representative of the original acreage; it consists of approximately 2 1/2 acres of woods on the east, through which a branch of the Mattawoman Creek runs, and, on the west, 2 1/2 acres of lawn surrounding the house, which is accessible from the north by the old farm lane.



PG:84-20
Bellevue
Prince Georges
County
Maryland
18/325850/4280890

4280

360 000 FEET
(VA)

4278

4277000m N

38°37'30"



P.G.#84-20

Bellevue

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

10 October 1985

South elevation

Neg: Md. Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G.#84-20

Bellevue

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

10 October 1985

Southwest 3/4 elevation

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P.G.#84-20

Bellevue

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

10 October 1985

North elevation

Neg: Md. Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G.#84-20

Bellevue

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

10 October 1985

East elevation

Neg: Md. Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G.#84-20

Bellevue

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

10 October 1985

North entrance

Neg: Md. Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G.#84-20

Bellevue

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

10 October 1985

Detail, South parlor

Neg: Md. Historical Trust, Annapolis,
MD



P.G.#84-20

Bellevue

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

10 October 1985

Interior, Staircase detail

Neg: Md. Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G.#84-20

Bellevue

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

10 October 1985

Interior, stairhall from north

Neg: Md. Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G.#84-20

Bellevue

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

10 October 1985

Interior, mantel in South parlor

Neg: Md. Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD