

VLR-6/19/73 NRHP-12/12/78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

| | |
|------------------|--|
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| DATE ENTERED | |

**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 Auburn Chase; Sheffields

AND/OR COMMON

Bellwood (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 3 miles S of Richinodd City limits; 3 mile W of U.S. Route 1;
.3 mile N of Kingsland Creek; .6 mile S of intersection of
State Route 1613 and U. S. Route 1.. NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Richmond

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF Third (David E. Satterfield, III)

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

Chesterfield

CODE

041

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Defense General Supply Center, DSA, Department of Defense

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Richmond

VICINITY OF

STATE

Virginia

23297

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Chesterfield County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chesterfield

STATE

Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE

1957

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D. C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The former Auburn Chase plantation house is a characteristic example of the finely proportioned dwellings erected during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries to serve as residences of Virginia planters. The two-story, single-pile house follows a basic Georgian proportional system, having a symmetrical, five-bay facade and a low hipped roof. Typically, the windows are twice as high as they are wide and contain nine-over-nine sashes. The windows have pegged frames with milled sills; the sashes and many of the glass panes are original. The windows were originally hung with shutters; the present ones are modern. The rectangular transom on the front door is enriched with Adam-style tracery. Materials used in the house include a brick foundation and brick (Flemish bond) exterior end chimneys. The house's superstructure is timber framed and covered with weatherboards. Sheltering the center bay is a non-original pedimented portico supported on two square columns. The portico's brick platform and Chinese lattice rail are modern.

The plan of the house is the basic center-passage plan with a room on each side. Although the interior is now used as an officers' club, much of the early fabric is intact. This includes pine flooring, paneled doors, the stair, and most of the door and window frames. A handsome Adam-style mantel and paneled dado survive in one of the first-floor rooms. A long, one-story wing has been added to the rear in modern times to accommodate the club's service areas.

The house is located just inside the main gates of the supply center. Although most of the farmland is now occupied by the complex's many buildings, the house retains a pleasant setting. It is situated on a slight rise, surrounded by cedars, oaks, and lawn. A paved, curved drive leads to the portico. Adjacent to the house are twenty-one acres of pasture kept for the maintenance of a herd of seven American elk, descendants of two elk brought to the property by James Bellwood around 1900.

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8 SIGNIFICANCE

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|------------------|--|
| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-FREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) | Animal Husbandry | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Known originally as Sheffields and later as Auburn Chase, Bellwood was a working plantation from 1619 to 1941, except for a twelve year period following the Great Massacre of 1622. The Sheffield family was killed during the massacre, and when the area was pacified the property was acquired by the Gregory family. The Gregorys built the present dwelling house around 1790; nothing is known of preceding houses. The existing structure is a characteristic example of the wooden, Georgian style architecture favored by most Virginia planters during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Although it has been subjected to later modifications, its architectural integrity has not been significantly diluted.

In addition to the Great Massacre, Bellwood has been the scene of battles in both the Revolutionary War and the Civil War. In the latter conflict it was occupied by Union troops. The owner of the property during that period was Major Drewry, who had married into the Gregory family. Drewry later traded the plantation for Westover in Charles City County. In 1887 the house and farmlands were acquired by James Bellwood, who gave the place its present name. Bellwood restored the depleted land and made the farm one of Virginia's chief agricultural showplaces. Bellwood products represented Virginia at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco and won fourteen gold and silver medals as well as the outstanding exhibit award for excellence in competition with international exhibits. From 1900 through the 1930s Bellwood was visited by agriculturists from throughout the world, and its reputation remains even today. A remnant of the Bellwood family's interest in nature is the elk herd, still cared for on the grounds.

In 1941 Bellwood was acquired by the U.S. Government and is now the Defense General Supply Center. The house is maintained as the center's officers' club.

CL

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- "Auburn Chase," privately printed pamphlet.
 Deed, Richard Gregory, Chesterfield County Deed Book 14, p. 233, November 1, 1797.
 Gregory Genealogy.
 Lutz, Francis Earle. Chesterfield, An Old Virginia County. Richmond, Va., 1954.
 Wray, Margaret Bellwood, personal interview, private papers.
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Archives.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 21 acres

E 18 284170 4143400

UTM REFERENCES

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|-----|------|---------|---|------|---------|----------|-----|------|---------|
| A | 1,8 | 28,4 | 4,1,0 | 4,1 | 4,3 | 3,5,0 | B | 1,8 | 28,4 | 4,0,0 | 4,1 | 4,3 | 0,4,0 |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING | | ZONE | EASTING | | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING | | ZONE | EASTING |
| C | 1,8 | 28,4 | 1,6,0 | 4,1 | 4,3 | 0,5,0 | D | 1,8 | 28,3 | 9,9,0 | 4,1 | 4,3 | 3,2,0 |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The 21-acre Bellwood property is bounded by a line beginning at a point located at the NE corner of wooded area 200' W of US Route 1 and approximately 1700' SSW of intersection of said route with State Route 1614; thence extending approximately 700' S along E edge of wooded area, then curving SW for about 400', continuing along the tree line, then curving due W and continuing along S edge of wooded area for approximately 650' to a point (C); thence extending approximately 200' due N, cutting through wooded area; thence extending approximately 800' NW, partially following tree line; thence extending approximately 650' NE to a point (E); (See: Continuation Sheet #1)

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

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

11 FORM PREPARED BY (1)

NAME/TITLE

Joseph P. Smith, Lt. Col. William D. England, and
 Scott Church

(2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

August 1977

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

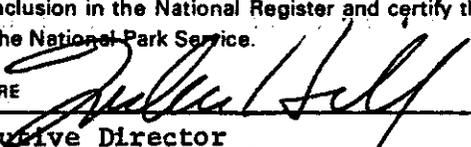
NATIONAL

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE



Resubmitted

TITLE Tucker Hill, Executive Director
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE SEP 9 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Bellwood, Chesterfield County, Virginia

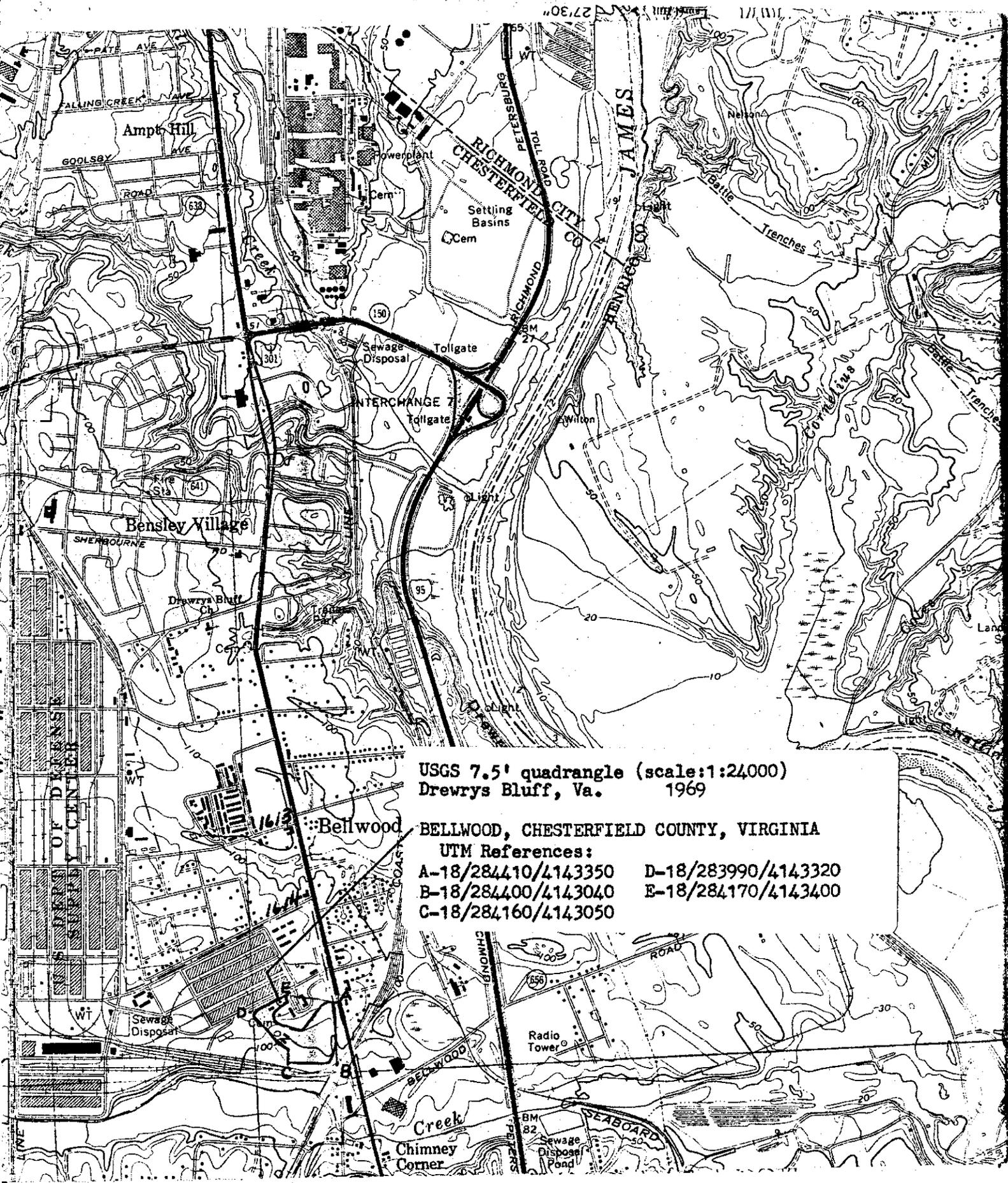
CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 1

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (Verbal Boundary Description cont'd)

thence extending approximately 150' SE; thence extending approximately 800', curving SW, S, then SE to W edge of wooded area; thence extending approximately 700' NE along W tree line to point of origin.



USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
 Drewrys Bluff, Va. 1969

BELLWOOD, CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, VIRGINIA

UTM References:
 A-18/284410/4143350 D-18/283990/4143320
 B-18/284400/4143040 E-18/284170/4143400
 C-18/284160/4143050