

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Bellevue

Other names/site number: DHR ID# 022-0002

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

### 2. Location

Street & number: 14505 Cumberland Gap Road (Route 42)

City or town: New Castle State: Virginia County: Craig

Not For Publication:  N/A Vicinity:  X

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

\_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B X C \_\_\_ D

<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>	<b>Date</b>
<u>Virginia Department of Historic Resources</u>	
<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
<hr/>	
<b>Signature of commenting official:</b>	<b>Date</b>
<hr/>	
<b>Title :</b>	<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

---

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

---

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

---

#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	buildings
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	objects
<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

---

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

HEALTH CARE: clinic

FUNERARY: cemetery

UNKNOWN

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

AGRICULTURE: animal facility

RECREATION AND CULTURE: monument/marker

RECREATION AND CULTURE: sports facility

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

---

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

LATE VICTORIAN: Victorian

---

---

---

---

---

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD; BRICK; STONE; METAL

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

---

### Summary Paragraph

Bellevue, located at 14505 Cumberland Gap Road in western Craig County, Virginia, is a ca. 1833 Federal-style brick house updated in the Victorian style around 1900. The two-story house has a metal-sheathed side-gable roof, a stone foundation, an integral one-story ell, and a symmetrical five-bay front. Centered on the front is a ca. 1900 two-tier entry porch with elaborate sawn and turned millwork. The center-passage-plan interior is characterized by wood floors, plaster wall and ceiling finishes, and Federal mantels. The house is accompanied by notable domestic and agricultural outbuildings including a ca. 1860 Greek Revival doctor's office, an early 1900s potato storage cellar, and an early 1900s above-ground ice house. Also on the 10.057-acre nominated parcel are a nineteenth-century cemetery, the foundation of a nineteenth-century building of unknown function, a reworked historic barn, and modern farm buildings. Bellevue stands at an elevation of between 2,500 and about 2,600 feet above sea level in the north corner of the intersection of Cumberland Gap Road (Route 42) and Sugar Maple Road (State Route 625). The property drains to a small branch on the opposite side of Sugar Maple Road which flows into Sinking Creek, a tributary of the New River. The house stands about a half-mile northwest of the flanks of Sinking Creek Mountain, which with Johns Creek Mountain to the north define the Sinking Creek Valley. The Appalachian Trail runs along the ridge of Sinking Creek Mountain above the property.

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

---

## Narrative Description

### *Inventory*

1. Bellevue House (primary resource). Ca. 1833; ca. 1900. Contributing building.
2. Doctor's office. Ca. 1860. Contributing building.
3. Ice house. Early 1900s. Contributing building.
4. Potato storage cellar. Early 1900s. Contributing building.
5. Cemetery. 19<sup>th</sup> c. Contributing site.
6. Historic barn. Early 1900s. Non-contributing building.
7. Hay barn. 2005. Non-contributing building.
8. Tack room. 2007. Non-contributing building.
9. Run-in barn. 2005. Non-contributing building.
10. Moon barn. 2007. Non-contributing building.
11. Foundation. 19<sup>th</sup> c. Contributing site.
12. Virginia Historical Highway Marker KH3. 1997. Non-contributing object.
13. Riding arena. 2003. Non-contributing structure.

### *House Exterior*

The house known as **Bellevue** (inventory no. 1), the principal resource on the property, faces southeast. The front elevation and southwest gable end are Flemish bond and the northeast gable end and northwest rear elevation are irregular common bond with 1:5, 1:6 and 1:8 coursing. Stretcher bricks are mixed in every nine to eleven header bricks in the header courses of the common-bond brickwork. The northwest gable end of the ell has similar common-bond brickwork; that plus an apparent lack of a seam in the stone foundation suggest the ell is integral with the house, though the brickwork of the ell's southwest side was rebuilt in stretcher-bond brick of variegated red to grayish hues in the mid-twentieth century. The original brickwork received a red oxide wash and the mortar joints were penciled in the nineteenth century. To the right of the front entry are traces of now illegible graffiti written in lead pencil on top of the white mortar-joint penciling. Such mortar-joint graffiti is often found on brick houses of Bellevue's vintage. On both sides of the top of the front entry are faintly scored arrow-like markings, possibly modern, that point toward the door. The foundation is constructed of coursed limestone stones with dressed faces under the front and southwest sides of the house and the ell. Such coursed limestone stonework is common for nineteenth-century foundations and chimneys in the county. Limestone construction wraps around the west corner of the ell gable end as far as the stones that form the west corner of the chimney base; the stonework then switches to sandstone, though there is one vertical limestone block mixed in with the sandstone and perhaps more under grade. Narrow sandstone and limestone stones are used as leveling stones at the top of the limestone foundation to form an even bed for the brickwork above. Between the limestone blocks survive vestiges of prism mortar joints.

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

The ca. 1900 two-tier porch has chamfered posts, spindle friezes, and sawn, turned, and reeded ornament similar to decorative work from the same period in the nearby town of New Castle. Below the chamfers the posts are scored to create a cube appearance and the faces of the cubes have recessed bullseyes. The faces of the posts are reeded from top to bottom, the reeding interrupted only by the scoring and bullseyes. The upper and lower railings are created from decoratively sawn slats that meet at their centers to create concave lozenge cutouts. Each porch tier has a spindle frieze with cusped fringes on the lower edges. The scrolled sawn brackets at the tops of the posts visually support the spindle friezes, and where the brackets meet the cusped decoration are turned pendants. The porch has a front-gable roof with weatherboard siding in the gable and, in the apex, ornament consisting of a middle panel of spindles, an upper panel with a toothed gear-like half-round panel in a round-arched opening flanked by quatrefoil cutouts, and at the bottom a cusped fringe flanked by sawn spade-form pendants. The gable has cornice returns, and at the top of the porch posts under the returns and on the sides are elaborate sawn brackets with turned pendants and projecting bullseye and stacked egg-like ornament. At the top of the inner posts are smaller sawn brackets. At the foot of the porch are modern wood steps.

At the same time the porch was added the house's windows were given decorative surrounds with cornices with molded and cusped ornament. The window lintels and jambs are reeded and the windows themselves have two-over-two wooden sashes. To the left and right of the current porch is evidence for an earlier porch of two tiers or a lower tier with a balcony above. At the outer upper corners of the first-story windows that flank the porch is evidence of porch post attachment: a mortise later filled with a brick to the left and, to the right, a mortise containing a wood nailer block with holes from former cut nails. Above and below these mortises are faint vertical white lines that are probably the ghosts of former porch posts that attached to the house. On the rear elevation is a single projecting brick cornice course.

Shallowly projecting brick chimneys with stepped shoulders rise on the gable ends. The chimney of the southwest gable end is flanked by windows in both stories whereas the northeast gable end has no windows. Square openings—a louvered vent and a four-pane window—flank the chimneys at gable level. The one-story brick ell has a two-story frame addition on its northeast side. The addition, which was probably made in the mid-twentieth century, has a low-pitched gable roof, replacement weatherboard siding, modern replacement two-over-two windows, and an inset corner porch with chamfered posts of two different types that were probably reused from an earlier rear porch. The brick ell has the aforementioned rebuilt southwest side, reconstruction work that was probably done in the 1940s or 1950s to accommodate the elevation's wood-sash windows, which are of three types: a dining room picture window with a fixed multi-pane center section flanked by four-over-four sashes, a six-over-six window, and a pair of smaller six-over-six windows above the kitchen sink. (The reconstruction may also have been done to correct deteriorating brickwork; it extends around the corner of the gable end.) In the foundation below is a four-panel cellar door and on the gable end are two basement windows. In the brick ell gable are two tie rod ends flanking the chimney shoulders. The one on the left incorporates a piece of iron with a cast or incised diaper (diamond) pattern.

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

### *House Interior*

In the center passage rises a two-run stair with a landing, a square bottom newel with a stepped cap, an upper newel with a bulbous turned pendant at its lower end, square balusters, and rounded handrails (pegged to the newels) with beaded lower edges. The door to the closet under the stair has three names and the date Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>, 1864, written on it in pencil. The names are Benton Wiley, Sallie Wiley, and Annie Scott Wiley. The first- and second-floor front entries have transoms and panel doors. The first-floor door has an unusual panel pattern with three horizontal panels over three side-by-side vertical panels. The door is hung on strap hinges with spade ends and has an iron lock box with an ornate Eastlake brass doorknob. The second-floor door is of wide but more conventional six-panel form and is hung on butt hinges.

Bellevue's Federal styling is most evident in the form and detail of its mantels, which survive in each of the four rooms of the main section of the house. The downstairs mantels have two-part forms with narrow tablets at the ends of the frieze. They are similar overall, with heavy composite stack moldings under the shelves, reeded pilasters, and heavy beads on the lower edges of the shelves, but their ornamentation varies slightly. The mantel in the right-hand downstairs room, which appears to have incipient Greek Revival influence, has pilasters with bases and relatively tall caps; a wide cavetto molding in the stack molding; and six gouged flutes in the end tablets. The mantel in the left-hand downstairs room has pilasters without bases and with relatively short caps; a stack molding without a cavetto molding; and reeding in the end tablets. The upstairs mantels are virtually identical, with tripartite forms with wide center tablets and narrower end tablets, gouged flutes on the tablets, plain pilasters (no fluting or reeding), and relatively narrow stack moldings under the shelves dominated by cavetto moldings. Like the downstairs mantels the upstairs mantels have heavy beads on the lower edges of the shelves. The fireplaces are open or closed and have modern brick hearths.

Wainscots with relatively simple chair rails are common in the front rooms. Six-panel doors are common and doors and windows have molded trim. Bookshelves have been built into the alcoves to either side of the chimney in the right-hand first-floor room. The dining room has a built-in angled corner cupboard with upper and lower door leaves, the upper leaves with red and green stained-glass and textured clear glass panels added by the current owner. The cabinet is crowned by Colonial Revival-influenced ornament with a dentil cornice flanked by curved elements with turned bosses at their ends. The lower compartment is lined with embossed wallpaper. The kitchen at the end of the ell has mid-twentieth century cabinets with Art Deco-influenced chrome pulls. The first-floor end room of the frame portion of the ell is a spring room with a concrete spring box.

The ell basement has whitewashed stone walls and log ceiling joists that retain bark. A window opening on the northeast side, now under the frame addition to the ell, has a pintel for a former window or shutter. The attic has a common rafter roof with lapped and pegged up-and-down machine-sawn rafters with Roman numeral marriage marks. The marks have a number of irregularities, such as a duplicated V on two rafter couples and an X with a vertical line through its center, possibly to represent the numbers nine or eleven (if the latter then it too is a duplicate,

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

since another rafter couple is marked XI). The roof boards are also up-and-down machine-sawn, and projecting through them are cut nails for former wood shingle roofing.

### *Secondary Resources*

The southwest-facing **doctor's office** (no. 2) is a small one-story frame building dating to the mid-nineteenth century, probably the 1850s or ca. 1860. The office has weatherboard siding, a metal-sheathed side-gable roof, and a sandstone foundation. The chimney on the northwest gable end was rebuilt by stonemason Freeman Shanahan in 2013 with the sandstone blocks of the chimney that formerly stood at the location. The gable-fronted front porch has simple chamfered posts, railings with rectangular balusters and rounded handrails, a sandstone foundation, and modern wooden steps. The porch shelters an entry with a two-panel door and molded crosssetted surround. Other exterior features include six-over-six wooden sash windows with plain surrounds and a shed-roofed rear room. The one-room interior features a vernacular Greek Revival mantel with possible pattern book attributes. The mantel has stubby pilasters, an upper frieze with an accordion-fold recessed panel, and a recessed lower frieze with a plain recessed panel. The fireplace has been rebuilt with an inner lining of yellow fire bricks. The roof structure, which is exposed, appears to combine original and later material, with joists with plaster key stains, sapling rafters butted to a ridge beam, and a plate over the front wall with empty mortises and peg holes that suggest it was reused from another building. Finger bones and other human bones have been found in the dirt behind the office.

The **ice house** (no. 3) is a small above-ground frame structure with thick, sawdust-insulated frame walls sheathed with weatherboard siding. The steep-pitched, overhanging pyramidal roof has modern metal sheathing. Other features include a thick batten door, a sandstone rubble foundation, evidence for a former projecting attachment of some sort on the rear weatherboards, a modern board lining on the interior, and wire-nailed construction. The ice house stands near State Route 625, across the road from a branch which was dammed in cold weather to produce ice. The **potato storage cellar** (no. 4) is a low, front-gabled structure built into a bank with a ventilation shaft projecting at the ridge. The front elevation and the upper parts of the side and back are frame with original/early wire-nailed weatherboards on the sides and replacement weatherboards over a diagonal-board underlayment on the front. The front has a z-braced batten door and is adjoined by short sections of stone retaining wall, the one on the left probably original with a formed concrete corner, the one on the right recently rebuilt. The vent has a small gable cap, the main roof has metal sheathing, and the rear gable has a small square opening. A thick insulating layer of straw, possibly surviving from the historic period, is visible inside the attic. Inside the storage area below are visible wire-nailed wall and ceiling boards and shelving and, in the back left corner, a cabinet. The **cemetery** (no. 5) occupies the top of the hill above the house. It currently has no above-ground grave markers. 1870s deeds reference the cemetery and note that it was enclosed (fenced) at the time.

The **historic barn** (no. 6) is a story-and-a-half frame building that was enlarged in the first decade of the twenty-first century. The original section at the southeast end, which is constructed with wire nails, and the addition at the northwest end have a continuous front-gable roof

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

sheathed with corrugated metal, as well as modern weatherboard siding and decorative modern sandstone foundations (continuous under the original section and discontinuous under the addition). The roof engages a drive-through area on the northeast side, supported by log posts on stone pedestals (the posts and pedestals are modern). The front entry has a modern batten door adjoined by a reused historic window sash which is in turn adjoined by an original slatted corncrib. The corncrib extends back along the drive-through and has at the top a long flip-down panel mounted on simple strap hinges that was used for loading the crib. Other features include butted common rafters, flush-board interior walls, and a hay carrier (stored in the barn, not original to it) stamped Myers O.K. Unloader, Ashland, Ohio. Stored in the loft is a Federal mantel that is similar in form and detail to the ones in the house and is thought to have come from the ell. It has reeded end tablets, a stack molding under the shelf, and pale green paint (possibly faded, and appearing blue-green in certain light). The faces of the tablets appear to be painted white. The back of the mantel shows it to have been constructed of up-and-down machine-sawn boards pegged together.

On the parcel are four modern frame barns, constructed in 2005 and 2007, that are similar in appearance—each is painted red and has metal roofing—though they serve different functions. The **hay barn** (no. 7) has board-and-batten siding, a porch along the northeast side that shelters large doors, and a lower extension on the northwest end. The **tack room** (no. 8) has weatherboard siding and a front porch engaged under the front-gable roof. The **run-in barn** (no. 9) is largely open-sided but with a wall to block the wind on the northwest end and a narrow enclosed center room. The board-and-batten gable has a pine tree motif in the apex. The **moon barn** (no. 10) has an open front, board-and-batten siding, a stone foundation, and an asymmetrical side-gable roof.

In the yard in front of the house are specimen trees including a large Norway spruce and a large Norway maple. In the south corner of the front yard are traces of a stone **foundation** (no. 11) for a building of unknown date and function (see discussion in section 8). The stones appear to define a foundation wall running perpendicular to Route 42 and parallel to State Route 625. In the corner is **Virginia Historical Highway Marker KH3** (no. 12), which commemorates William Addison “Add” Caldwell, the first student to register at Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College (now Virginia Tech) in 1872. Caldwell grew up in a house three miles to the north. In the east corner of the parcel, next to Cumberland Gap Road, is a modern **riding arena** (no. 13) consisting of a sand-surfaced fenced enclosure with rounded corners measuring 121 by 121 feet square. On the south side of the arena is a small open-sided viewing stand constructed of square wood posts with a metal-sheathed gable roof. On the south side of the viewing stand is a smaller round pen. The arena is enclosed by a vertical-board fence and the smaller pen is enclosed by a horizontal-board pen.

### *Integrity Statement*

Bellevue possesses high overall integrity. The contributing resources generally possess integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. Bellevue house, the property’s principal historic

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

resource, has changed little since its original construction ca. 1833 and subsequent evolution ca. 1900, with such important character-defining features as original brick construction, symmetrical five-bay form, gable roof, decorative front porch, and Federal interior. Non-historic alterations such as a water closet in the first-floor right-hand room are minor. The doctor's office retains its late antebellum Greek Revival character, though its chimney is modern and there has been some alteration to the interior. The ice house and potato storage cellar are little changed from their original construction. Modern alterations to the historic barn are thorough enough to render it non-contributing, but it is the only historic-age building on the parcel so classified. The four modern barns and riding arena are in keeping with the property's historic agrarian character. Bellevue possesses high integrity of setting in that its lightly-developed agricultural surroundings are virtually unchanged from the historic period. The survival of character-defining features and the high integrity of setting contribute to the high integrity of feeling and association.

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

---

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

Ca. 1833-ca. 1925

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

Ca. 1833

Ca. 1860

Ca. 1900

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Bellevue, located in the Sinking Creek Valley of Craig County, Virginia, is a Federal-style two-story brick house with notable original and later features and outbuildings. The house was built by merchant Robert Wiley about 1833 and is also associated with his sons, politician and CSA Colonel Robert May Wiley and CSA physician Dr. Oscar Wiley. Dr. Wiley practiced medicine from a Greek Revival doctor's office in the front yard. Scottish-born livestock breeder Thomas Bonar Neilson owned the farm in the late 1800s and in 1893 was described as keeping there "the largest flock of Shropshire-down sheep in the State." The house features Flemish and common bond brick construction, a ca. 1900 decorative front porch and matching window ornament, and reeded, fluted, and molded Federal mantels. In front of the house stands a ca. 1860 doctor's office, a rare resource type. Also on the property are a bunker-like potato storage cellar, a pyramidal-roofed ice house with sawdust-insulated walls, a cemetery, and a foundation for a building of unknown function (possibly a store). Bellevue is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C in the architecture area of significance as what appears to be the only antebellum brick house in Craig County—the only such house to survive and possibly the only one to be built—and for the many notable features of the house and outbuildings described in the text. The period of significance extends from ca. 1833, the date of construction for the house suggested by tax records, to ca. 1925, embracing the construction of the ice house and potato storage cellar in the early twentieth century and are contributing to the architectural ensemble. Bellevue is eligible at the local level of significance.

---

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

*Historic Context*

Bellevue's history begins when the section of Craig County where the house stands was part of Botetourt County. The house was built for Robert Wiley (1780-1847), whose Scottish father John Wiley is thought to have been born in 1754, lived in Botetourt County by 1774 when he wed Lydia Robinson, and died in 1809 or 1810 in Monroe County, one county to the west of Craig County in present-day West Virginia. John and Lydia's son Robert was a merchant and landowner who in the 1810s lived in the Botetourt County seat of Fincastle. Robert Wiley's first recorded land purchase was in 1811, followed by the purchase of over 500 acres in the Sinking Creek Valley in 1818. In 1827 he purchased a 382-acre tract on Sinking Creek where he built Bellevue. An increase in the value of buildings on the tract from zero to \$1,000 in 1833 suggests the house was completed that year. An accompanying note reads "Improvements \$1000."<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Kidwell, "Kidwell Family Genealogy Page;" Hamlin, *Virginia Ancestors and Adventurers*, 25; Botetourt County Deed Book 10, p. 363; Deed Book 13, p. 216; Deed Book 17, p. 340; Botetourt County land books. Biographical information that supports a post-1830 date of construction for the house is the birth of Robert's son Oscar Wiley in Fincastle in 1830 (*History of Virginia*, 574). A number of individuals

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

Interestingly, the period of construction for Bellevue coincides with the early development of the Cumberland Gap and Price's Turnpike, a road linking Botetourt County to Cumberland Gap at the western tip of Virginia. The Virginia legislature passed an act to "provide for the construction of a road from Price's turnpike to Cumberland gap" in 1834, a year after the route was mapped by the state's Board of Public Works. The 1833 map shows "Robt Wileys" at the location of Bellevue. If Robert Wiley built Bellevue partly in response to the imminent construction of the turnpike, he would not have been the only Botetourt County business leader of the period to make such a move. About 1836 George W. Wilson built his residence/hotel the Blue Ridge Hotel at the crossing of the route of the Blue Ridge Turnpike and the Great Road in the eastern part of present-day Botetourt County. Wilson built a store and post office in conjunction with his hotel.<sup>2</sup>

Robert Wiley married twice: first to Lucy Ann Bott Luck in 1824, then to Mary Ann Major Mason after Lucy's death. His will, probated in 1847, makes reference to various sons and daughters. To his son F. M. Wiley he bequeathed lands "east of the turnpike road" and, immediately following in the will, he bequeathed the "residue of my lands in the Valley of Sinking Creek to be equally divided" among four other sons: Ro May (Robert May), Byron S., Oscar, and Benton. In reference to Benton's young age (he was born in 1835), the elder Wiley stipulated "I direct my personal estate of every description negroes cattle horses hogs sheep etc etc remain on my plantation (Bellevue) until Benton my youngest son is of age." Other slaves that "I got by my last marriage" Wiley gave to his six children.<sup>3</sup>

Wiley's estate was not immediately divided among his heirs. An 1856 Craig County land book lists property including the house as belonging or provisionally assigned to Robert May, Oscar, and Benton Wiley. Evidence suggests the household of Robert May Wiley (1825-1884) occupied the house for most or all of the 1850s and possibly into the 1860s. Robert May, whose occupation is listed as farmer in the 1850 census, married Mary Ann Elvira Scott (ca. 1827-1895) in 1845 shortly after he graduated from the Virginia Military Institute. Residing with him and his wife in 1850 was his brother Benton who, despite being only sixteen years old, was listed with the occupation of farmer with real estate valued at \$5,416. The arrangement suggests Robert May functioned as paterfamilias after his father's death. Robert May represented Craig County in the state Senate from 1851 to 1864. Information at the Virginia Military Institute Archives Digital Collections website suggests he served on the governor's staff during the Civil War. He served as a colonel in the Confederate States Army during the war. Bellevue is labeled "Col. Wiley" on an 1864 map, a designation that may reflect Robert May's earlier association with the house or the continued residence of his family in it. In 1850 Robert May's brother Ferdinand M. Wiley (1818-75), occupation farmer, appears to have lived at another location with his wife,

---

contributed to the preparation of this report, foremost among them the sponsors of the nomination, Tracy and Bill Frist. Assistance was also provided by Hilda Jane Henderson, Rachel Braun, Elizabeth Coggins, and Michael Pulice, Tom Klatka, and Lena Sweeten McDonald of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

<sup>2</sup> Looney et al, *In and Around Craig County*, 12; *Acts of the General Assembly*, 106; "Map of the Cumberland Gap Road;" Pezzoni, "Blue Ridge Hotel," 10.

<sup>3</sup> Botetourt County Will Book G, p. 378.

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

Mary Partray Irvine Wiley (1821-91), whom he married in 1844, and his brother Oscar Wiley, whose occupation was given as teacher. By 1858 Bellevue had been assigned to Oscar. The land book that year recorded a parcel of 382 acres with buildings valued at \$1,500, representing Bellevue, and another parcel of 2,440 acres with no value of buildings belonging to Oscar.<sup>4</sup>

The names and date written on the stair closet door—Benton Wiley, Sallie Wiley, and Annie Scott Wiley and the date September 18, 1864—pose a number of questions. Several individuals with the same or similar names belonged to the family during the general period. Benton Wiley attended Washington and Lee University (then Washington College) in Lexington in 1854-1855. An 1888 alumni catalog lists him as a Craig County farmer and a veteran of the Fifty-Fourth Virginia Regiment, Confederate States Army, in which he served as a captain. The 1860 census lists him as the head of his own Craig County household which included his wife, Sallie C. Wiley (b. ca. 1841). Another Sallie Wiley also belonged to the family: Sallie C. (Catharine?) Wiley (b. ca. 1858), a daughter of Robert May and Mary Ann Elvira Scott Wiley. A candidate for the third name on the door, Annie Scott Wiley, has not been identified, unless it was the name Mary Ann Elvira Scott Wiley went by. The date September 18, 1864, may simply be the date the names were written rather than having some historical significance.<sup>5</sup>

Dr. Oscar Wiley (1830-1904) headed his own household in 1860, by which date he was practicing medicine in Craig County. After first attending Emory and Henry College, Wiley studied medicine at Randolph Macon College and Jefferson Medical College, graduating from the latter in 1852. His first wife, Sarah E. Pearson Wiley (1832-59), had died by 1860, leaving him two young sons. His second wife was Malvina (or Melvina) “Molly” Price Wiley (1840-1912). County birth records note the birth of a black child to an enslaved woman named Docia owned by Wiley in 1857. During the Civil War he served as a physician in the Confederate States Army. According to historian Darrell Collins, Wiley played an important role in the famous 1863 Averell’s Raid. Union General William Averell arrived in New Castle in December 1863 after destroying rail facilities at Salem. According to Collins, Averell decided he needed a local doctor to guide his army between converging Confederate forces and on to safety in West Virginia. Wiley was sent for at his “fine home out along Sinking Creek,” and when he arrived in New Castle Averell forced him to serve as his guide on pain of death.<sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>4</sup> Jennings, *1850 Census, Botetourt County, Virginia*, 290; “Map of Craig, Giles, Montgomery and Pulaski counties, Va.,” *Thirteenth Annual Report of the Library Board*, 187; Jack, *History of Roanoke County*, 25; Virginia Military Institute Archives Digital Collections website; Findagrave website; Vogt and Kethley, *Botetourt County Marriages*, 310. In 1873 Ferdinand was the postmaster in the Alleghany County town of Selma (*Register of Officers and Agents*, 953). In an entry on Oscar Wiley’s son Robert Minor Wiley in a 1924 biographical dictionary, the comment is made that Oscar was “one of a family of four sons, all of whom became substantial men of affairs, two being extensive farmers and one, Col. Robert Wiley, a prominent lawyer and politician” (*History of Virginia*, 574).

<sup>5</sup> US census; *Catalogue of the Officers and Alumni of Washington and Lee University*, 115.

<sup>6</sup> *History of Virginia*, 574; Findagrave website; Collins, *General William Averell’s Salem Raid*. Collins relied on a mix of primary sources and local tradition for his account. The *History of Virginia* lists Malvina/Melvina Wiley’s date of birth as 1841 and place of birth as Hanover County (p. 574).

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

Though Oscar Wiley owned Bellevue by 1858, he may not have lived in the house initially. The 1864 map label “Col. Wiley” suggests Robert May Wiley’s family lived in the house at the time, and such a fine house would have befitted a political leader like Robert May Wiley. Whatever the arrangement, it seems likely the building identified as a doctor’s office was used by Oscar Wiley, and the office may even date to the period of Wiley’s graduation from medical school in 1852. The office, which was conveniently situated on the Cumberland Gap Road (today’s Highway 42) to serve local residents and travelers, may have functioned as a general farm office as well.<sup>7</sup>

The building represented by the foundations on the opposite side of the front yard, at the corner of Highway 42 and State Route 625, may have functioned as a store. As a merchant Robert Wiley would have been aware of the commercial advantages of his location on a major transportation corridor. The site of the foundations at the junction of two roads suggests a commercial association equivalent to the “crossroads store” siting common for country stores in the nineteenth century, though it should be stressed that no documentary evidence for a store at Bellevue during the 1830s or 1840s has come to light. If the building was a store, a post office function is also possible. The names of the postmasters of the Sinking Creek Post Office, in existence by 1843, are not known, nor (again) is there any documentary evidence to link a post office to Bellevue, though it should be noted that Ferdinand Wiley later served as a postmaster in adjacent Alleghany County and is reported to have been a merchant. Another mystery associated with Bellevue is the identity of the individuals buried in the property’s cemetery. An 1878 deed refers to the “family grave yard as enclosed and the grave yard for the servants as enclosed.” The cemetery at Bellevue is presumably the family cemetery, as a slave cemetery associated with the farm is known to exist on a currently separate parcel, and as its proximity to the house would suggest. Perhaps the cemetery contains the graves of infants born to the extensive Wiley family but unrecorded by genealogists.<sup>8</sup>

Of Oscar Wiley’s postbellum career, a 1924 account states: “After the war he continued in medical practice at Sinking Creek until 1871, when he removed to Red Sulphur Springs in Roanoke County, and from there came to Salem in 1874.” The 1870 census lists him as a physician and farmer with \$15,000 in real estate holdings and \$3,500 in personal estate. Living with him were his wife Mollie and children Henry A. Wiley (age 16, a student) and Channing Price Wiley (age 4). Oscar and Malvina’s son Robert Minor Wiley M.D. was born at “Sinking Creek, Craig County” in November 1870 (according to the 1924 account), which would confirm the family’s continued residence at Bellevue through at least 1870. An 1875 Galveston, Texas,

---

<sup>7</sup> “Map of Craig, Giles, Montgomery and Pulaski counties, Va.,” Craig County land books. The office could conceivably date to the postbellum period based on style, but the preponderance of evidence suggests it is in fact antebellum.

<sup>8</sup> Craig County Deed Book B, p. 537; Deed Book C, p. 172; Haskel and Smith, *Complete Descriptive and Statistical Gazetteer of the United States of America*, 614. The Sinking Creek Post Office appears to have been discontinued by 1864; it is not shown on a map of that year, replaced by three other post offices in the valley: Gravel Hill, Level Green, and White Flint (“Map of Craig, Giles, Montgomery and Pulaski counties, Va.”). Modern maps show the community of Sinking Creek about a mile to the west of Bellevue, but post offices moved around.

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

newspaper advertisement for the Roanoke Red Sulphur Springs notes Wiley's association with the resort. In 1869, prior to the move, Wiley served on the board of the Preston and Olin Institute in Blacksburg, a few years before the Institute became the Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College (today's Virginia Tech). Wiley's neighbor Addison "Add" Caldwell was the first student to register at the new school in 1872. In 1877 Wiley was elected vice-president of the Medical Society of Virginia and in 1889 he became the organization's president.<sup>9</sup>

In 1873 Wiley sold Bellevue to Thomas Bonar Neilson (ca. 1834-1897) of Scotland. Neilson paid \$14,166.68 for 944.5 acres in installments. An 1878 deed described the acreage as "all that tract of land inherited by the sd Oscar Wiley from his father Robert Wiley decd," excluding the family and servants graveyards. Neilson was described as a resident of Craig County, suggesting he was already resident on the farm. The 1879 land book valued buildings on his tract at \$400, considerably below antebellum/Civil War levels. Neilson purchased the property with a loan of 2,350 pounds sterling from his sister, Mary Ann Jane Neilson of Lanark, Scotland.<sup>10</sup>

Little is known about Thomas Bonar Neilson before his arrival in Craig County. In 1865 an individual with the same name was involved in a business partnership in the Otago region of New Zealand, an area of heavy Scottish settlement. In 1880, according to the census of that year, Neilson resided at Bellevue with his wife, Emma Smith Neilson (b. ca. 1830), a native of England, and domestic servant Nettie Bell, age eighteen. As a farmer Neilson devoted himself to livestock breeding, with sheep as his principal focus. In 1889 he purchased a ram for \$250. The following year he was active in the International Association of Sheep Exhibitors and in 1892 he won premiums in ewes, lambs, and fleeces at the Virginia state fair. Neilson authored the article "Sheep-breeding" which appeared in the 1893 annual report of the Virginia State Board of Agriculture, indicating his authority on the subject. The promotional booklet *Virginia: A Handbook* (1893) noted that in the Sinking Creek Valley "is the largest flock of Shropshiredown sheep in the State, owned by T. B. Nielson [sic], Esq." The same passage described the valley as "covered by a rich blue-grass sward" that made the section "admirably adapted to stock-raising." In 1895 Neilson was a vice-president of the American Shropshire Registry Association. He also had an interest in hogs and bred a boar named Little Jim, the 1894 sale of which was noted in an 1898 volume of the *Ohio Poland-China Record*.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>9</sup> *History of Virginia*, 574; Dunlap, *Craig County, Virginia, 1870 Census*, 28; *Galveston Daily News*, June 6, 1875; *Transactions of the Forty-Fifth Annual Session of the Medical Society of Virginia*, 223; Cox, "Olin and Preston Institute," 7. Robert Minor Wiley's gravestone in Salem's East Hill Cemetery gives his birth date as 1871. The Medical Society of Virginia positions appear to have been one-year terms.

<sup>10</sup> Craig County Deed Book B, p. 537; Deed Book C, pp. 172, 639. The 1873 sale was confirmed by deed in 1878.

<sup>11</sup> *Otago Daily Times*, November 9, 1865; Dunlap, *Craig County, Virginia, 1880 Census*, 13; *National Stockman and Farmer*, June 27, 1889; *Breeder's Gazette*, October 15, 1890; *The Times*, October 20, 1892; Neilson, "Sheep-breeding;" *American Shropshire Record*, vol. 10., 1895; *Ohio Poland-China Record*, vol. 20, 1898: 264. The 1893 description of the Sinking Creek Valley may have been written by Neilson, whose name is misspelled Nielson in some sources.

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

T. B. Neilson died intestate and childless in 1897. The appraisal and settlement of his personal estate notes such things as insurance he had paid on his barn, eight and a half acres of “growing corn,” “125 bu. [bushels] of wheat, at mill,” and cattle and horses including a bay horse and a gray mare. Land books for the years immediately preceding his death show an increase in the value of buildings on the Bellevue tract from \$400 in 1895 to \$610 in 1896. The increase is not explained but most likely relates to the construction of a farm building or buildings, perhaps the barn noted in 1897 (the increase seems proportionally too large to represent the current porch). Neilson had never paid back the loan from Mary A. J. Neilson, and she began proceedings to recoup her investment resulting in the sale of the “Doctor Wiley Homestead” to J. O. Rowan and C. C. Jones in 1900. Deed descriptions refer to various buildings and features in the vicinity including a manse, the “Grange Hall lot,” and a rock fence. Neilson’s widow Emma is mentioned in the transactions but she appears to have received little. She is not listed as a resident of the county in the 1900 census.<sup>12</sup>

The new owners were farmer James Oscar Rowan (b. 1849) and county treasurer Clifton Canic Jones (1857-1946). Jones appears to have sold out to Rowan at some point. Rowan’s household in 1900 included his wife Ella F. (Waugh) Rowan (b. 1854) and their daughter Rosa Angela “Pet” (Rowan) Givens (1872-1950) and three of her children. The 1910 census lists just J. O. and Ella, Hazel Lorain Rowan (age 4, apparently an adopted daughter), and a housekeeper, Beatrice S. Britts. J. O. Rowan died intestate before 1930, leaving the property to his only heir, Rosa Angela Givens, who in 1936 sold Bellevue (then a parcel of 301 acres) to Kate Farrier (1905-1989) for \$800. Kate, the daughter of Letcher Walter Farrier (1882-1942) and Elizabeth L. McGuire Farrier (1881-1965), sold the property to her father in 1939, though she continued to live on the place. Kate Farrier made the last major alteration to the house, the rebuilding of the ell. The house remained in the Farrier family until 1990. The current owner, Tracy Frist, purchased Bellevue in 2004.<sup>13</sup>

### *Criterion C: Architecture Significance*

Bellevue appears to be the only antebellum brick house in Craig County, the only such house to survive and possibly the only one to be built. The county has not been systematically surveyed, however enough is known about its historic buildings to suggest antebellum brick houses are otherwise unrepresented in the county’s architectural heritage. Three antebellum brick buildings survive in the county seat of New Castle: the ca. 1834/1850s Central Hotel, the 1851-1852 Craig County Courthouse, and the early 1850s Craig County Jail, all identified as important contributing buildings in the New Castle Historic District (DHR ID# 268-0013; NRHP 1973). The ca. 1834 original section of the hotel was built as a tavern and so had a residential aspect, but it was not a house in the true sense. Bellevue, completed by the end of 1833, predates it. A

<sup>12</sup> Craig County Deed Book J. pp. 270 and 486; Craig County Will Book D, pp. 64, 175; Craig County land books. The sale to Rowan and Jones may not have been finalized until 1901. Two barns on the property, taken down after 2000, had slate shingle roofs which suggest they dated to the ca. 1900 period.

<sup>13</sup> Tracy Frist personal communication; Givens and Givens, *1900 US Census of Craig County*, 7; Givens and Givens, *1910 US Census of Craig County, Virginia*, 4; Findagrave website; Craig County Deed Book 2, p. 347; Deed Book 5, p. 192; Deed Book 76, p. 725.

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

systematic survey of the Sinking Creek Valley downstream from Bellevue between the Craig/Giles county line and the Giles County town of Newport, undertaken in support of the listing of the Greater Newport Rural Historic District in the National Register, found no antebellum brick houses. The earliest brick house in the district is believed to be the 1894 Payne-Frances House. The Giles County sample suggests that at the time Bellevue was built in the 1830s, virtually all dwellings in the valley were log with stone foundations and stone chimneys rather than brick chimneys. Frame houses were only just beginning to appear in the valley.<sup>14</sup>

Bellevue's brick construction emphasized the prominence of its original owner, Robert Wiley, since brick houses were an expensive status symbol during the antebellum period, as they were in colonial and early national society. The use of Flemish bond on the house's two most visible elevations and common bond on less visible elevations is consistent with period/regional practice for refined brick residences. The foundation stonework follows a similar hierarchy, with the stone switching from limestone to sandstone around the less visible end of the ell. The Federal interior detail is consistent with the finer houses of the 1810s-1830s period, the heyday of the style's popularity in western Virginia, and the normative (as opposed to vernacular) decoration of the mantels and the incipient Greek Revival influence seen in the first-floor right-hand mantel suggest the work of a skilled regional craftsman conversant with the prevalent mode. The "slashed X" builder marks on some of the attic rafters are an interesting feature, probably an idiosyncrasy of the framer. The ca. 1900 front porch, a virtuoso work of Victorian carpentry, is broadly similar to the expressive millwork that adorns houses in New Castle such as the ca. 1890 James H. Marshall House, the early 1890s A. E. Humphreys House, and the 1898 George Layman House, the latter decorated by Botetourt County finish carpenter Gratt Firebaugh.<sup>15</sup>

Bellevue's domestic and agricultural outbuildings have interesting architectural features that enhanced their visual appeal and functionality. The ca. 1860 Greek Revival doctor's office is a fine and rarely surviving example of the type. The ice house, also a rare survival, is unusual for its entirely above-ground form—most ice houses on farms were semi-subterranean—though a parallel is provided by the small above-ground ice house built for commercial production at the Beckley Mill Site in Beckley, West Virginia, between 1898 and ca. 1909. The ice house was built with insulating features, which is also the case for the potato storage cellar with its semi-subterranean construction and the thick mat of insulating straw in its attic. The cellar is broadly similar to examples illustrated in a 1917 USDA bulletin on potato storage and storage structures, several of which feature ventilator shafts and straw insulation. The ventilator of the Bellevue cellar closely matches the bulletin's description of a properly constructed ventilator: "A

---

<sup>14</sup> Michael Pulice personal communication; Kern and Giles, "New Castle Historic District (Boundary Increase)," 7-9; Kapp, "Greater Newport Rural Historic District," 3-5. Craig County currently has four National Register nominations total (three if one considers the New Castle Historic District and its boundary increase a single designation).

<sup>15</sup> Kern and Giles, "New Castle Historic District (Boundary Increase)," 14-15. The value of buildings at Bellevue decreased by one dollar from 1896 to 1904, \$610 to \$609, a fluctuation that does not shed light on the question of the date of the front porch, though based on its style the porch would have been added at the end of the Neilson family ownership from ca. 1890 to 1900 or the beginning of the Rowan/Jones ownership from 1900 to about 1910.

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

ventilator should be so constructed that the opening at the top is protected by a cap.” The wire-nailed construction of the ice house and potato storage cellar suggests construction after ca. 1890, either at the end of the Neilson ownership or during the Rowan/Jones ownership, more likely the latter. If the concrete-work of the retaining wall on the left side of the potato storage house is original, then it is evidence that the building was probably not built before 1900.<sup>16</sup>

---

<sup>16</sup> Pezzoni, “Beckley Mill Site,” 17; Stuart, “Potato Storage and Storage Houses,” 6, 7.

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### **Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

*Acts of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia* [1834]. Richmond, Va.: Thomas Ritchie, 1834.

*The American Shropshire Record* (Columbia, Mo.).

*Back Roads, Side Roads and Old Country Lanes Between Maywood and Meadow Creek, In and Around Craig County, 2011*. New Castle, Va.: Craig County Historical Society, 2011.

Botetourt County deed, land book (property tax), and will records. Botetourt County Courthouse, Fincastle, Virginia.

*The Breeder's Gazette* (Chicago, Il.).

*Catalogue of the Officers and Alumni of Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia, 1749-1888*. Baltimore: John Murphy & Co., 1888.

Collins, Darrell R. *General William Averell's Salem Raid*. Shippensburg, Pa.: Burd Street Press, 1998.

Cox, Clara B. "Olin and Preston Institute and Preston and Olin Institute: The Early Years of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University: Part II." *Smithfield Review* 20 (2016).

Craig County deed, land book (property tax), and will records. Craig County Courthouse, New Castle, Virginia.

Dunlap, Wilma Walker, comp. *Craig County, Virginia 1870 Census*. St. Louis, Mo.: Tree Art Publishers, 1977.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Craig County, Virginia 1880 Census*. St. Louis, Mo.: Tree Art Publishers, 1977.

Elmore, William. "Dr. Wiley Home." Works Progress Administration of Virginia Historical Inventory Report, September 14, 1936.

Evans, Clement A., ed. *Confederate Military History*. Volume 4. Wilmington, N.C.: Broadfoot, 1987 (reprint).

Findagrave website.

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

Frist, Tracy. Personal communication with the author, July-August 2018 and March 2020.

*Galveston Daily News* (Galveston, Tx.).

Givens, Clyde, and Nathalie Givens, comps. *1900 US Census of Craig County, Virginia*.  
New Castle, Va.: Craig County Historical Society, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_. *1910 US Census of Craig County, Virginia*. New Castle, Va.: Craig County  
Historical Society, 2005 (2011 reprint).

Hamlin, Charles Hughes, comp. *Virginia Ancestors and Adventurers*. Baltimore: Genealogical  
Publishing, 1975.

Haskel, Daniel, and J. Calvin Smith. *A Complete Descriptive and Statistical Gazetteer of the  
United States of America*. New York: Sherman & Smith, 1843.

Henderson, Hilda Jane. Personal communication with the author, July-August 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Wiley Family Tree*. 2018.

*History of Virginia*. Vol 6: Virginia Biography. New York: American Historical Society,  
1924.

Jack, George S. *History of Roanoke County*. Roanoke, Va.: Stone Printing, 1912.

Jennings, Ruby Brugh, comp. *1850 Census, Botetourt County, Virginia*. St. Louis: Tree Art  
Publishers, 1976.

Kapp, Paul Hardin. "Greater Newport Rural Historic District." National Register of Historic  
Places Registration Form, 1999.

Kern, John R., and Leslie A. Giles. "New Castle Historic District (Boundary Increase)."  
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 1992.

Kidwell, James Henry. "The Kidwell Family Genealogy Page." Updated September 28, 2000.  
Genealogy.com website.

Looney, Helen Abbott, Jane Echols Johnston, Judith Greene, eds. *In and Around Craig  
County: A History of the Founding of Craig County, 1851*. New Castle, Va.:  
Craig County Historical Society, 2001.

"Map of Craig, Giles, Montgomery and Pulaski counties, Va." 1864.

"Map of the Cumberland Gap Road." 1833. Board of Public Works Records, Library of

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

Virginia, Richmond.

*The National Stockman and Farmer* (Pittsburgh, Pa.).

Neilson, T. B. "Sheep-breeding." In *Report of the State Board of Agriculture of Virginia*.  
Richmond, Va.: J. H. O'Bannon, 1891: 124-126. (Article republished in the 1893 report.)

Noble, Allen G., and Richard K. Cleek. *The Old Barn Book*. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers  
University Press, 1995.

*The Ohio Poland-China Record* (Dayton, Oh.).

*Otago Daily Times* (Dunedin, N.Z.).

Pezzoni, J. Daniel. "Beckley Mill Site." National Register of Historic Places Registration  
Form, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Blue Ridge Hotel." National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 2016.

"Potato Storage Cellar." Pennsylvania Agricultural History Project, Pennsylvania Historical  
& Museum Commission website.

Pulice, Michael. "Bellevue Farm (Bellevue Farm)." Virginia Department of Historic  
Resources Intensive Level Survey Form, 2011.

\_\_\_\_\_. Personal communication with the author, March 2020.

*Register of Officers and Agents, Civil, Military, and Naval, in the Service of the United States,  
on the Thirteenth of September, 1873*. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1874.

*The Times* (Richmond, Va.).

Stuart, William. "Potato Storage and Storage Houses." US Department of Agriculture  
Farmers' Bulletin 847, July 1917.

*Thirteenth Annual Report of the Library Board of the Virginia State Library, 1915-1916*.  
Richmond, Va.: Davis Bottom, 1917.

*Transactions of the Forty-Fifth Annual Session of the Medical Society of Virginia*. Richmond,  
Va.: Richmond Press, 1915.

US Census.

Virginia Military Institute Archives Digital Collections website.

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

Vogt, John, and T. William Kethley, Jr., comps. *Botetourt County Marriages, 1770-1853*.  
Volume 1. Athens, Ga.: Iberian Publishing, 1987.

---

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested  
 previously listed in the National Register  
 previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other  
Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** DHR ID# 022-0002

---

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 10.057 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 37.428940 | Longitude: -80.252212 |
| 2. Latitude: 37.427526 | Longitude: -80.250667 |
| 3. Latitude: 37.425541 | Longitude: -80.253092 |

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

4. Latitude: 37.427296 Longitude: -80.254529

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

The true and correct historic boundary is shown on the attached Sketch Map/ Photo Key. The boundary corresponds to the current tax parcel (83-A-11) on which the house and closely associated historic resources stand.

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

The boundary embraces the Bellevue house and surviving closely associated historic resources. A two-story house that may have been associated with the property historically stands on a separate parcel in unrelated ownership to the north. Also on a separate parcel and in unrelated ownership is an associated slave cemetery.

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: J. Daniel Pezzoni  
organization: Landmark Preservation Associates  
street & number: 6 Houston St.  
city or town: Lexington state: Virginia zip code: 24450  
e-mail gilespezzoni@rockbridge.net  
telephone: (540) 464-5315  
date: May 21, 2020

---

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

**Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

## Photo Log

Name of Property: Bellevue  
City or Vicinity: New Castle County: Craig State: Virginia  
Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: varies  
Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: varies

1 of 15  
Date Photographed: March 2020  
Bellevue house front or southeast elevation, view facing northwest.

2 of 15  
Date Photographed: March 2020  
Bellevue house front porch, view facing west.

3 of 15  
Date Photographed: July 2018  
Bellevue house center passage stair.

4 of 15  
Date Photographed: July 2018  
Bellevue house first-floor front entry.

5 of 15  
Date Photographed: July 2018  
Bellevue house first-floor northeast room mantel.

6 of 15  
Date Photographed: July 2018  
Bellevue house second-floor northeast room mantel.

7 of 15  
Date Photographed: July 2018  
Bellevue house dining room cupboard.

8 of 15  
Date Photographed: July 2018  
Bellevue house roof structure.

9 of 15  
Date Photographed: March 2020  
Bellevue house ell with potato storage cellar and historic barn beyond, view facing north.

Bellevue  
Name of Property

Craig County, Virginia  
County and State

10 of 15

Date Photographed: March 2020

Bellevue house rear elevation with ice house, potato storage cellar, modern barn, and Sinking Creek Valley landscape beyond, view facing south

11 of 15

Date Photographed: March 2020

Doctor's office front, view facing northeast.

12 of 15

Date Photographed: March 2020

Doctor's office mantel.

13 of 15

Date Photographed: July 2018

Potato storage cellar with modern barn beyond, view facing north.

14 of 15

Date Photographed: March 2020

Ice house and modern barns, view facing west.

15 of 15

Date Photographed: March 2020

Front yard with Norway maple, historical highway marker, and intersection of Route 42 and State Route 625, view facing south.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

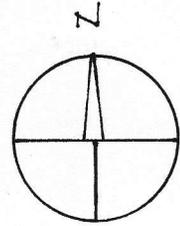
# Bellevue

14505 Cumberland Gap Road  
Craig County, Virginia  
DHR ID# 022-0002

National Register of Historic Places Location Map  
Boundary projection approximate

Latitude/longitude coordinates:

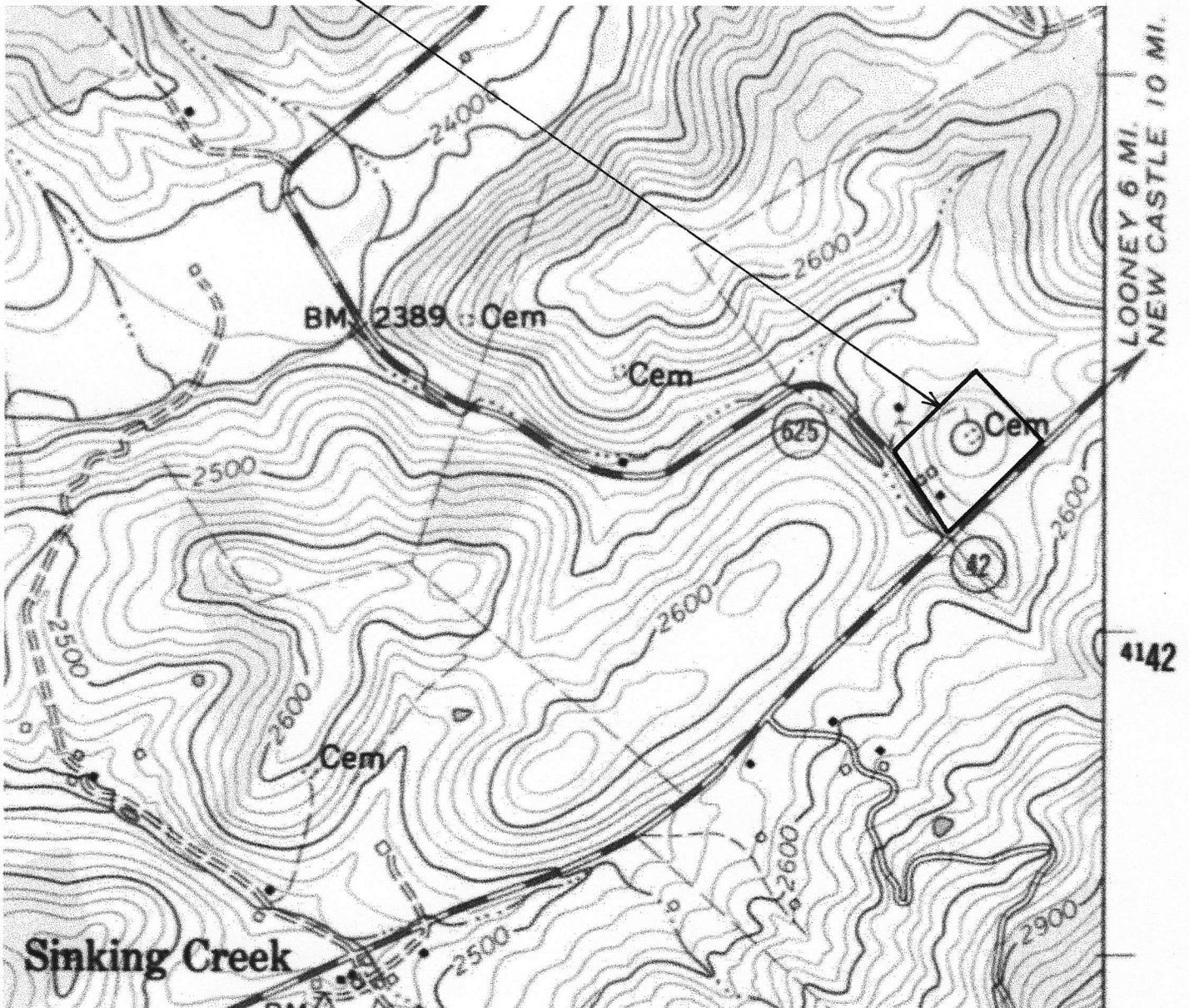
- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 37.428940 | Longitude: -80.252212 |
| 2. Latitude: 37.427526 | Longitude: -80.250667 |
| 3. Latitude: 37.425541 | Longitude: -80.253092 |
| 4. Latitude: 37.427296 | Longitude: -80.254529 |



0 1000

Scale in Feet (approx.)

Location of NR property

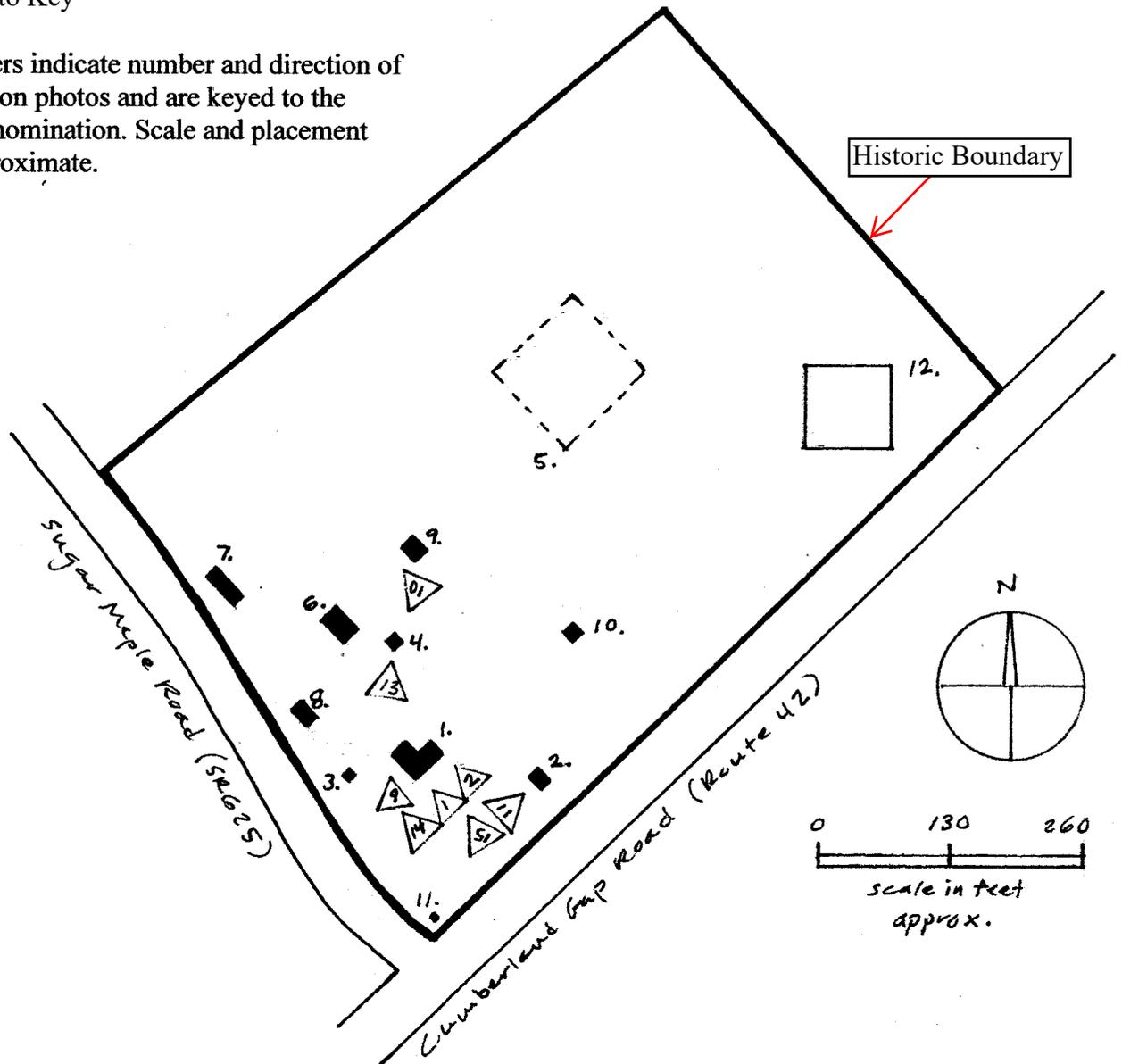


# Bellevue

14505 Cumberland Gap Road  
Craig County, Virginia  
DHR ID# 022-0002

National Register of Historic Places Boundary Map,  
Sketch Map/ Photo Key

Triangular markers indicate number and direction of view of nomination photos and are keyed to the photo log in the nomination. Scale and placement of resources approximate.



## Inventory

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Bellevue. Contributing building.              | 7. Hay barn. Non-contributing building.                                 |
| 2. Doctor's office. Contributing building.       | 8. Tack room. Non-contributing building.                                |
| 3. Ice house. Contributing building.             | 9. Run-in barn. Non-contributing building.                              |
| 4. Potato storage cellar. Contributing building. | 10. Moon barn. Non-contributing building.                               |
| 5. Cemetery. Contributing site.                  | 11. Virginia Historical Highway Marker KH3.<br>Non-contributing object. |
| 6. Historic barn. Non-contributing building.     | 12. Riding arena. Non-contributing structure.                           |