

Needwood Mansion

18MO397



Montgomery College

Life Long Learning

By Michael Dwyer and Vivian Eicke

April 2009

Early Land History

Needwood, a large brick edifice of generous proportions, traces its history back to the original land patent of 1,000 acres entitled Needwood. The Needwood patent was granted to John Cooke, a pioneer of the region, in 1758. A dwelling house and many log houses are listed on the patent and described as *“very leekey and indifferent, being very old....”* The Needwood patent was sold in parts and resurveyed. In 1832, William Robertson purchased 759 acres of the land from William Wooton. The Robertson had settled in the area in the 1700’s at Milton Farm which later became associated with Muncaster Mill. William Robertson married Harriet Cooke, a grand-daughter of John Cooke, who later inherited 850 acres considered the “middle portion” in the stretch of Cooke’s land that ran from Rock Creek to Crabb’s Branch. William Robertson’s land holdings, through his wife’s purchases, grew in size. He established himself as a prosperous farmer in the Rock Creek community.



Harriet Cooke Robertson

Sunnyside

In 1842, he deeded to his son, William George Robertson, that parcel of 759 acres which he had purchased in 1832 together with the buildings and improvements located on the property and *“and also the following Negroes, namely, Margery, Levi, Sally, Solomon, Ephraim, and Bill....”* During this time, farm became known as Sunnyside. Robertson acquired one of the first insurance policies sold by the Mutual Insurance Company for his new property as a *“one and a half story, log dwelling, weatherboarded and plastered throughout and well finished—one chimney—ashes kept in an iron vessel under cover.”* There is also a description of a detached log kitchen, a log meat house, and other buildings. Some of these buildings were possibly constructed on the property before Robertson ownership. As the 1758 patent enumerates, there is a recorded of log structures throughout the Rock Creek region in the early days of settlement.

Prosperity

In 1857, William George applied for a new policy to include his recent construction (1856): *“a new two story brick dwelling with slate and adjoining former wooden building—5 rooms and passages—2 chimneys—built and finished in a substantial manner”*. William George Robertson, in building his new brick dwelling was giving evidence that he had become a wealthy planter who owned a large and busy plantation that employed the use of slave labor. By this time William George owned 13 slaves. The new dwelling was constructed in the style of the late Federal period and incor-



Needwood Mansion ca. 1933

porated Greek Revival details. The design was reminiscent of the fashionable townhouses of merchants in Georgetown—not a farmhouse built in the country by a farmer.

Misfortune

At the outbreak of the Civil War, tragedy struck the Robertson family when William George Robertson and his horse were struck and killed by a bolt of lightning outside of the entrance gate to his new house on June 26, 1861. He left his wife, Mary Victorine Key Scott Robertson, a widow with nine living children and another on the way. His mother Harriet Cooke Robertson, a widow herself by this time, took on the task of helping Mary Victorine raise her children.



Mary Victorine Robertson (seated second from left) with nine of her ten surviving children. She was the mother of thirteen children, but three died as infants. Photo ca. 1880.

Civil War Association

The oldest son, William George Robertson, Jr., enlisted as member of Mosby's Rangers of the Confederate Army in March 1864. Because of the Robertson's southern leanings, Sunnyside was suspect and under scrutiny during the war as a haven for Confederates. At one point, the Mary Victorine was reportedly saved from being arrested by appearing on the porch with a baby in her arms.



Captain Walter Bowie

The Battle of Rickett's Run (a fight between Quakers from Sandy Spring, Confederate Capt. Walter Bowie and eleven of his men) occurred in close proximity on October 7, 1864. A letter written by a principle character in the battle mentions the "*the Rebs took the road by Emory Church (now Emory Lane) through Wm. Geo. Robinson's (Robertson's) and out to Rickett's Creek.*" The Robertson were reported to have stored their grain inside the house as well as stabling horses indoors when there was a threat of confiscation. After the war, William George, Jr., attended a reunion and offered a *A Tribute to Mosby's Raid at Berryville, Virginia*, in which he refers to himself as a veteran of Mosby's command.

William George, Jr. was paroled from Mosby's band at Winchester, Virginia in April 1865.

Post-Civil War Era

Mary Victorine and her children moved from Sunnyside to Baltimore after the death of Harriet Cooke Robertson in the 1870's. Mary Victorine was originally from Baltimore. She was the daughter of prominent Baltimore lawyer, John Scott, and a relative of the Key (Francis Scott Key) and the Fitzgerald families. Between the time she moved out until the purchase of the property by George Washington Columbus Beall in 1881, the property was rented out.

George Washington Columbus Beall was a member of the Beall (pronounced Bell) family that had been established in Montgomery County since the eighteenth century. Oral history claims that G.W.C. Beall, who was against slavery, burned down the slave quarters upon arrival at Sunnyside. Beall and his wife Mary Anne Palmer of Woodlawn, experienced prosperity at Sunnyside and contributed to the social prosperity and economical growth of the community. *The Sentinel* newspaper mentions in 1904 that "the leap year dance at Mr. Columbus Beall's home, Sunnyside, near Derwood, this county, was a great success." Edward Palmer Beall and Frank Beall bought out the other heirs when their father died. In 1925, they converted Sunnyside from general farming to dairying. Since the railroad ran less than a mile away in Derwood, the milk could be conveniently shipped to the cities making dairying a successful venture. The Bealls sold the the farm after almost seventy years of ownership to the Stickles in 1948.



Edward Palmer Beall standing on the front porch of Needwood Mansion, 1905. Notice the original 1 1/2 story log section in the background.

Modern Times

Mr. Wilmer Stickles became the president of the Montgomery County Farm Bureau and was representative of the post-World War 2 era of gentlemen farmers. After Mrs. Ruth Stickles researched the history of the estate and discovered the original Needwood patent, the name of the farm was changed from Sunnyside back to Needwood. The house and farm were sold to the Eckles family who in turned sold it to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission in 1962.



Needwood Mansion and barns, ca 1947, before renovations and addition of brick wing.



Both the Stickles and the Eckles continued the dairy business begun by the Bealls although they greatly improved and modernized the facilities to meet health regulations.

Needwood Today

When Needwood was acquired by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, developments of the land included the construction of a golf course and the damming of Rock Creek to create Lake Needwood. Due to periods of rental and the ravages of time, the house has undergone a continuing process of restoration under M-NCPPC ownership. Today Needwood is utilized to house the offices of the Parks Department and is a successful example of adaptive re-use in preservation.

Robin Stickles stands in the doorway of Needwood Mansion in 1948. The front porch and door have been removed during the renovations of 1947-48.

Tornado damage to Needwood Mansion 1968. Trees blown over during the tornado punched a large hole in the roof and knocked down chimneys.



1848 Insurance Policy for Needwood

Application of *Wm George Robertson*
Farmer of *Mersey Side*
 in the County of *Mersey* for Insurance against FIRE, by the **MONTGOMERY COUNTY**
MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, for the sum of \$2540 to wit: On

	Amount insured.	Rate For Ct.	Amount of Premium Note.		Estimated cash value of property exclusive of Land.
	Dollars.		Dollars.	Cts.	
Dwelling House <i>14.6.00</i>	\$770	5	37	00	100
Household Furniture therein	<i>19.150</i>				
Stables and Shed					
Garage and Hay in buildings herein described					
Stables	\$300	5	15	00	450
Houses and Cattle in said buildings	\$150	5	7	50	200
Tobacco House	\$80	5	3	00	100
Wagon and Harness in said buildings					
Mill owned by him					
Mill owned by him					
Corn, Canning Wagon	\$300	5	15	00	450
House	\$8000	5	4	00	120
Stables, House					
	\$2540		127		

No ashes shall be kept in wooden vessels in or about the building insured. All fire or chimney boards shall be lined at the bottom with tin or other metal.
 If a stove or stoves be used, pipes passing through floor or partition, shall be secured with an earthen collar or metallic cylinder, or otherwise sufficiently secured; and if pipes pass into flue on upper story, it shall be with an elbow, and flue shall be built with brick, laid flat. No pipe shall pass through side wall or roof.

Amount of Premium Note, \$127
 6 Per cent. paid, \$ 432
 Policy and Survey, 3 10
 \$7.42

Agent.

Post Office of Applicant.

Title in Fee, unincumbered, occupied by Applicant
 A 1 1/2 story Log Dwelling, weather boarded, glassed throughout, well finished 30 by 16 feet - One room on top in lower floor and 3 chimneys
 Paper on 2^d floor - chimney 3 feet, glassed tubes kept in an iron tubular under cover -
 Log Kitchen 16 feet square 1 story, detached about 10 feet from house
 Log Meat House about 35 feet from kitchen, 18 feet square - nearly due East - Porch 10 by 30 feet on South side of Dwelling -
 Tobacco House 16 feet 20 feet square, distant from Dwelling about 1/2 way N. W.
 Frame Stable, about 30 by 30 feet.
 Servants House Log, 24 by 16 feet, distant from Dwelling about 27 feet near east -
 Corn crib, Canning Wagon House 30 by 30 feet of frame -
 A two story Barn 42 by 80 feet, including overtop 3 sides of lower story of frame 9 feet high - 10 feet of frame, key post roof -
 All the above Buildings are in good repair, most of them new -

Wm George Robertson Applicant

Transcription of 1848 Insurance Policy

Application of William George Robertson of Sunny Side in the County of Montgomery for Insurance against FIRE, by the MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY of Montgomery County for the sum \$2,540 to wit: On

	Amount Insured	Rate Per C.T.	Amount of Premium Note		Estimated Cash value of property exclusive of Land	No ashes shall be kept in wooden vessels in or about the building insured. All fire or chimney boards shall be lined at the bottom with tin or other metal. If a stove be used, pipes passing through floor or partition, shall be secured with an earthen collar or metallic cylinder, or otherwise sufficiently secured; and if pipes pass into flue on upper story, it shall be with an elbow, and flue shall be built with brick, laid flat. No pipe shall pass through side wall or roof.
	Dollars		Dollars	Cts		Amount of Premium Note, \$127
Dwelling House & Kitchen	\$750	5	37	50	\$1,000	Per cent. Paid \$4.32
Household Furniture therein						Int. to Jan Stamp
						Policy and Survey 3.10
Barn and Shed	\$900	5	45		\$1,200	Canceled August 19 1881 Burnt
Goods and Hay in buildings herein described						
Stable	\$300	5	15		\$450	
Horses and Cattle in said building						
Tobacco House	\$150	5	7	50	\$200	
Wagon and harness in said building						
Meat House (\$60)	\$60	5	3		\$100	
Stone owned by him						
Mill owned by him						
Corn, Carriage & Wagon House	\$300	5	15		\$450	
Servants House	\$80	5	4		\$120	
	\$2,540		127			

Edw. Stabler, Agent

Rockville, Post Office of Applicant

Title in fee, unincumberd, occupied by applicant

A 1 1/2 story Log Dwelling, weatherboarded & plastered throughout & well finished 38 by 16 feet—Two rooms & entry on lower floor—3 chambers & passage on 2nd floor—1 chimney—3 fireplaces—ashes kept in an iron vessel under cover—

Log Kitchen 15 feet square 1 story, detached about 10 feet from House

Log Meat House about 35 feet from Kitchen, 18 feet square—nearly due East—Porch 10 by 38 feet on south side of Dwelling

Tobacco House & Shed 25 feet square & distant from Dwelling about 10 about 100 yards NW—

Frame Stable about 50 by 30 feet

Servants House Log, 24 by 16, distant from Dwelling about 27 yd—nearly east

Corn crib, carriage & wagon House 30 by 38 feet of frame—

A two story Barn 42 by 60 feet, including [?????] - 3 sides of Lower Story of stone 9 feet high—16 feet [?????] [?????] roof

All the above Buildings are in good repair, & most of them new

[signed] WmGeo Robertson applicant

1857 Increase of Insurance for Needwood

No. 75 Application of *William George Robertson (Inmate)*
Farmer of *Montgomery*
 in the County of *Montgomery* for Insurance against FIRE, by the MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE
 COMPANY OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, for the sum of \$ 2500 to wit: On

	Amount Insured.	Rate per cent.	Amount of Premium Note.	Estimated cash value of Property, exclusive of Land.
	Dollars.		Dollars. Cts.	
Dwelling House Brick	2500	5	125	3500
Household Furniture				
Barn and Shed				
Hay, Grain, &c., in Barn				
See letter of W.G. Robertson about descent of property to wife & Child July 11 th 1879. <i>WGR</i>				
	2500		125	3500

No ashes shall be kept in wooden vessels in or about the building insured. All fire or chimney boards shall be lined at the bottom with *raz* or other metal.
 If a stove or stoves be used, pipes passing through floor or partition shall be secured with an earthen collar or metallic cylinder, or otherwise sufficiently secured; and if pipes pass into flue on upper story, it shall be with an elbow, and flue shall be built with brick, laid flat. No pipe shall pass through side wall or roof.
 Amount of Premium Note, \$ 125
 Int. 4 Mos. — Days, }
 1st Jan., 1858 } 5.63
 Policy, Survey, and State tax, 1.25
 Stamp on Note - - - - -
 Postage - - - - - 06
 \$ 6.94

Askes shall not be kept nearer than 25 yards to the Insured buildings, unless in brick or stone ash houses.

Title as in former Application—

• *Four Two Story Brick dwelling, covered with slate adjoining former wooden building, 32+41 feet— five rooms & two passages— 2 chimneys— 6 fire places— 2 porches 10+32+9+12 feet— built & finished in a substantial manner—*

Wm Geo Robertson Applicant
 $\frac{125}{750}$ $\frac{2500}{1512}$

The undersigned have seen the dwelling above described and do not think the Cash value affixed to the same is too high to the best of our knowledge & belief—

Erwin M. Munceator
Thos Hunter

Mr. Robertson
 Secy.
 Montgomery
 County Post Office of Applicant.

Transcription of Policy Increase 1857

No. 75 Application of William George Robertson (increase)

Farmer of

In the county of Montgy for insurance against FIRE, by the MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, for the sum of \$2,500 to wit: On

	Amount Insured	Rate Per C.T.	Amount of Premium Note		Estimated Cash value of property exclusive of Land	No ashes shall be kept in wooden vessels in or about the building insured. All fire or chimney boards shall be lined at the bottom with tin or other metal. If a stove be used, pipes passing through floor or partition, shall be secured with an earthen collar or metallic cylinder, or otherwise sufficiently secured; and if pipes pass into flue on upper story, it shall be with an elbow, and flue shall be built with brick, laid flat. No pipe shall pass through side wall or roof.
	Dollars		Dollars	Cts		Amount of Premium Note, \$125
Dwelling House & Kitchen	\$2,500	5	37	50	\$3,500	Int. 9 ,Mos—Days
Household Furniture therein						1st Jan., 1858 5.63
						Policy and Survey and St. Tx.
						\$1.25
Barn and Shed						Stamp on note
Hay, Grain, &c, in Barn						Postage 06
						\$6.94
	\$2,500		125		\$3,500	

See letter of W.G. Robertson about distribution of property to wife and children July 11, 1879 RRG

Ashes shall not be kept nearer than 25 yards to the Insured buildings, unless in brick or stone ash houses.

Title as in former application—

A new Two Story Brick dwelling, covered with slate & adjoining former Wooden building, 32 x 41 feet—five rooms & two passages—2 chimneys—6 fireplaces—2 porches—10 x 32 & 9 x 12 feet—built and finished in a substantial manner

[signed] WmGeo Robertson applicant

The undersigned has seen the dwelling above described and do not think the Cash Value affixed to the same is too high to the best of our knowledge and belief.

[signed] Edwin M. Muncaster

[signed] Thos. Hunter

Robertson Family Burial Plot St. Mary's Catholic Church, Rockville, MD



This is
the

Robertson family plot in St. Mary's Catholic Church churchyard at the corner of Veirs Mill Rd and Rt. 355. Most of the Robertsons who lived at Needwood are buried here.



This is the grave of three of the Robertson children who died in infancy. They are Henry Sothoron Key born in 1854, Maria born in 1855, and Francis Xavier no birth date register. It is not known at the present time just when these children died.



Robertson Family Church Records
St. Mary's Catholic Church, Rockville. MD

SURNAME: **ROBERTSON** **DATE:** 30 November 2007

TASK: Provide information on the William George Robertson family who use to reside at Needwood Mansion, Rockville, MD. Provide information on baptisms, first communion, confirmation, marriage and burial records on the following individuals:

- William George Robertson, Sr. (1819 – 1861)
- Mary Victorine Robertson (Mrs. William George Robertson, Sr.) (1822 – 1901)
- William George Robertson, Jr. (1844 – 1924)
- John S. Robertson (1845 – 1909)
- Eliza K. Robertson (1845 – 1911)
- Samuel S. Robertson (1848 – 1902)
- Maurice Robertson (1849 - ????)
- Nathan C. Robertson (1852 – 1902)
- Edmond K. Robertson (1853 – 1907)
- Harriet Robertson, Jr. (1854 - ????)
- Henry Sothoron Key Robertson (1854 - ????)
- Maria Robertson (1855 - ????)
- Mary Victorine Key A. Robertson (1858 – 1895)
- Thomas P. Robertson (1862 - ????)
- Francis Xavier Robertson (???? - ????)
- William Robertson (1795 – 1852)
- Harriet Cooke Robertson (1795 – 1877)

SOURCES RESEARCHED: St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Rockville MD

RESULTS: All Robertson entries were transcribed, even if not included on list above. The condition of the record books does not allow for photocopies.

- Combined Register: Baptism September 9, 1813 to July 31, 1842

Marriage January 11, 1814 to January 21, 1836

No Robertsons listed

- Combined Register: Baptism August 30, 1835-December 30, 1869

First Communion December 7, 1862 – June 13, 1865

Confirmation September 20, 1855 – April 12, 1869

Marriage September 29, 1835 – August 17, 1865

Burials: “Wm. S. Robertson buried at Rockville June 28, 1861 age ___”, s/ M. Dougherty

Marriage: pg. 314: 1842 “William G. Robertson, Mary V. K. Scott married in the city of Baltimore, Feb 1st 1842”.

Baptisms:

Pg. 30: Robertson, Wm. G, born 15th Feb, Bapt. 23 April 1844, Robt. M. (?). Scott and Eliza O(?), sponsors. Wm. G. and M. V. Robinson parents. s/ M. P. Gallegher

Pg. 34: Robertson, John V.; Eliza K., born twins, 1st of Dec. 1845; bapt. 16 of Aug 1846. The First baptism in Ft. Rose. Mrs. E. Maker and Mich. P. Galligher, sponsors, Wm. G. and Victorine V. Robinson parents

Pg. 57: Robertson, Nathan C.; March 17, 1853, bapt. (sine ceremoniis), Nathan Cook, son of William Geo. and Victorine Robinson, born Dec. 23, 1852. s/ F. E. Boyle

Note: all three preceding entries listed child as Robertson, parents as Robinson

Pg. 72: Robertson, H. M. (near Rockville), April 6, 1854 bapt. Harriet Mary, born March 17/54 of William G. Robertson and Mary Victorine Scott. Sponsor Mrs. C. Fitzgerald.
s/ M. Dougherty

Roberson, H. S. (idem.) April 6, 1854 bapt. Henry Sotheron born March 17/54 of William G. Robertson and Mary Victorine Scott, his wife. Sponson (Mr.? Wm?) Richardson.
s/ F. M. Dougherty

Pg. 97: Robertson, M., near Rockville, Nov. 14 1855 baptized Maria born Sept. 12/55 of Wm. G. Robertson and Victorine Scott his wife. Sponsor Fanny Noland. s/ J. W. Dougherty

Index indicates and entry for Francis Xavier Robertson on page 124. No entry

found on that page or adjacent pages. Page 124 would be March 1858.

Pg. 132: Robertson, M.V: Sept. 17 / 58 baptized Mary victorine, born July 31/58 of Wm. G.

Robertson and Victorine Scott, his wife. Sponsor (?) Martha Hunter

Pg. 191: Robertson, T. P.: May 9, 1862 baptized Thomas Parkin born March 24/62 of Wm. G.

Robertson and Victorine Scott, his wife. Sponsor Miss Boodley s/ J. W. Dougherty

Notation April 2009:

William Robertson (1795 to 1852) and Harriett Cooke Robertson (1795 to 1877) are buried at Cooke's Range (aka the Pope Farm, owned my M-NCPPC).



These are the headstones for William and Harriett Robertson in the family cemetery located on Cooke's Range (aka the Pope Farm).

Obituaries for William George Robertson, Sr. and Mary Victorine Key Scott Robertson

Obit Wm. Geo. Robertson from Mont. Co. Sentinel 20 Sep 1861

Death

Obituary

A close personal intimacy- a warm and constant friendship, existing during a period of thirty years- from school-boy days up to mature years- has, by a mysterious dispensation of Divine Providence been suddenly terminated in the death of the late William George Rogertson.

Our friendship knew no chill or fluctuation; and, now, as I contemplate his whole life from an inner and elevated stand-point, it may be recorded, in all truth, that I never knew him to do or say any thing but what was pure, kind and gentlemanly. His nature combined the tenderness and modesty of woman- blended with the sterner attributes of manhood; and his character of conservator, councilor in many vexed questions is now lovingly embalmed in my memory.

He inherited a fair name, with broad patrimonial acres; how he occupied, and what kind of a steward he proved in the scriptural sense, "he being dead, yet they speak." He was a son, husband, father, master, neighbor and citizen. His walk and daily conversation was the record, without warning and time for correction, on which he was summoned before that august tribunal. We who knew his heart and life, while our hearts are sorely grieved, submit, without murmur, to that wisdom which cometh from above.

In all my experience and observation over no small area of country and men- I write with the full knowledge of all the words import- I never knew a better or purer man. His children, and the youth of his neighborhood, know how he followed the path of duty- a precious legacy, above and beyond all earthly price- which, if they will but observe, they will find it is the way in which honor lies.

P.

Washington, D.C., Sept. 11, 1861

Scott-Key family history

Obit Mary Victorine Key Scott Robertson

Departed this life at 4:21[?] [Mrs. M.V.K.R.] on Jan. 1st in the 79th year of her age.[relic of W.G. R. of Mont. Co.]

This venerable lady was the [and] granddaughter of the late judge John Scott of Baltimore and daughter of John Scott who many years since was at the head of his profession in this city; being an older brother of the late judge T. Parkin Scott, from whom the latter obtained a good share of his legal education.

On the maternal side she was the granddaughter of Hon. Philip Key of Hamburg, St. Mary's Co. who served in the Continental Congress [sic] that met in Philadelphia 1791-1793.

Her bright intellect gave in her conversation a sparkle and richness that charmed her friends; her [?] charity made her dear to the poor and in the family circle at home she well merited the devoted love of her husband and children.

She is survived by seven sons and two daughters her remains were interred at St. Mary's cemetery on Friday.

Military Record for William G. Robertson, Jr.

United States Archives & Records

Admininstration

Veteran's Identification	Service Description - General	Service Description - Army
Veteran's First Name: William	Rank: Enlisted	Arm in Which he Served: Cavalry
Veteran's Middle Name: George	Kind of Service: Volunteer	Company: D
Veteran's Last Name: Robertson	Beginning year of Service: 1864	Regiment: 43rd Virginia
Year of Birth: 1844	Ending year of Service: 1865	
Year of Death: 1924	War in Which he Served: Confederate, Civil War (1861-1865) State From Which he Served:	

1860 U.S. Census

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Page No. 112

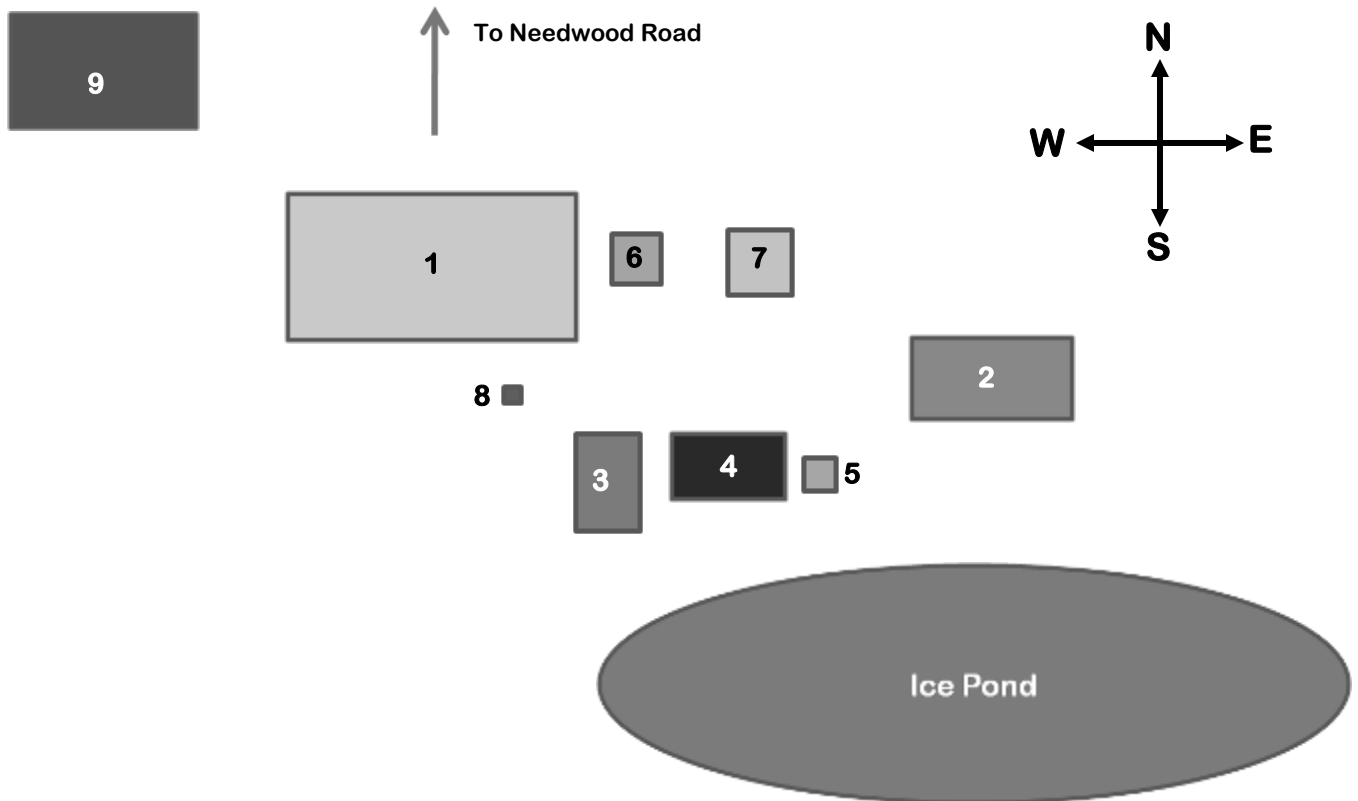
SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in 14th District in the County of Montgomery State of Maryland enumerated by me, on the 14th day of Sept. 1860. Wm. H. H. H. H. Ass't Marshal
Post Office Rockville

1	2	3	4			7	8		10	11	12	13	14
			Age	Sex	Color		Value of Real Estate	Value of Personal Estate					
677	679	Cephus Millett	39	m		Physician	5000	1500	Old				
		Elizabeth	25	f					N York				
		Cephus	9	m					Old				
		Samuel Johnson	26	f					Michigan				
678	680	James Russell	18	m	B				Old				
		James Strolagilt	42	m		Farmer	750	2000					
		Mary	41	f									
		Elizabeth	19	f									
		Ara	17	m									
		Sarah	13	f									
		Mary	11	f									
		Samuel	9	m									
		Ann	7	f									
		Richard	4	m									
		John	2	m									
681	683	Recharindy	21	f		Farmer		1.600					
		Samuel Thift	25	m				1.300					
		Ellen	30	f									
		Ada	4	m									
		Roberta	1	f									
682	684	George Daulake	30	m		Farmer		700	D. C.				
683	685	William Robertson	40	m			32000	17000	Old				
		Mary	37	f									
		William	16	m									
		John	14	m									
		Elija	14	f									
		Samuel	12	m									
		Morris	11	m									
		Edmund	9	m									
		Nathan	8	m									
		Harriet	7	f									
		Mary	3	f									
		Harriet	64	f									
		P. K. Oates	46	m		School Teacher			Ireland				
		Theodore Jacobs	28	m		Manager			Old				
687	624	John Dean	62	m		Farmer	2500	2500					
		Mary	62	f									
		Margaret	30	f									
		Constance	27	m									
		Richard	26	m									

No. white males, 23 No. colored males, 1 No. foreign born, No. blind, 43,259 30,200
 No. white females, 10 No. colored females, No. deaf and dumb, No. insane, No. idiotic, No. pauper, No. convicts,

The 1860 census lists William G. Robertson as a farmer with real estate worth \$32,000 and personal estate worth \$17,000. He has also employed Mr. P.K. Oates from Ireland as a school teacher for his children, and Theodore Jacobs as manager. Robertson's mother Harriet is also listed as living with him.

Layout of Needwood Property, 1848 (Not to Scale)



1 = Main Dwelling: A 1 1/2 story log dwelling, 38 ft. x 16 ft.

2 = Log Servants House: 24 ft. x 16 ft., 27 yds nearly east of main dwelling

3 = Ice House & Slave Quarters: Ice storage with slave quarters above.

4 = Unknown Log Structure

5 = Privy

6 = Log Kitchen: 15 ft. square, 1 story, detached about 10 ft. main dwelling.

7 = Log Meat House: 18 ft. square, nearly due east.

8 = Well

9 = Tobacco House & Shed: 25 ft. square, 100 yds northwest of main dwelling.

Using the 1848 insurance policy, we were able to do a site map of the property as it would have looked in 1848. There were other buildings mentioned, but their locations in relation to the main dwelling were not mentioned, and these were not included in the map.

Other Photos Taken of the Needwood Property

The following photos were taken of the Needwood Mansion and various areas on the property. All these photos were taken prior to the acquisition of the property by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission in 1962.



Needwood Mansion sits at the top of the hill just left of center. The unknown individual is walking across a field that is now covered by Lake Needwood. The view of the mansion from this area is also now obscured by trees.



These photos give different views of the mansion front before renovations.





This photo is looking east. The area in the small valley would be covered by Lake Needwood once Rock Creek was dammed.



This cabin was located in the woods near Needwood. It is unknown just where it was located.

