

Rosefield: The History of the John Dogan Farm

Manassas National Battlefield Park

Historic Resource Study

Gwendolyn K. White, Doctoral Candidate
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January 2012

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Recommendations

The history of Rosefield is one of family, slavery, agriculture and community. From the development of Carter lands in Prince William County in the eighteenth century to the rapid changes that occurred in the twentieth century, events at Rosefield reflect those of the larger region, Virginia, and the country as a whole. The Carter period of ownership covers the period of transformation from large plantations to smaller farms and development of transportation networks built to enhance travel and trade between the Piedmont region and western region of Virginia and the ports of Dumfries and Alexandria.

Ann Carter Hamilton, Wormeley Carter's eldest child, was born at Rosefield in 1788 and continued to live there through her marriage, the birth of her children and her husband's death in 1835. Her financial circumstances continued to become more constrained and in 1846 she followed some of her children to Missouri as they sought greater opportunities outside of Virginia.

The period of John Dogan's ownership of Rosefield is of course the most significant to Manassas National Battlefield Park and its interpretation. Dogan acquired the Rosefield land over a number of years. The property was conveniently close to his brother William H. Dogan's Peach Grove farm and well situated along the Warrenton Turnpike to participate in the advancements of the mid-nineteenth century. By the onset of the Civil War, Dogan was a prosperous and established farmer involved in the life of the community. The particulars of Dogan's crops and husbandry are representative of the neighborhood in which he lived. Their inclusion in the interpretation of the park would expand the understanding of the battlefields beyond the experience of the military to include the impact the battles had on the people who were making a living and a home on lands that would soon be torn apart by the war.

Also significant to the Dogan period at Rosefield is the life of John Dogan's niece, Mary Jane Dogan. She was just twenty-one when the war began and like many women of her generation she never married. Although she was orphaned as a young girl, she was part of a large extended family at Peach Grove and Rosefield with which she had close relationships. Mary Jane Dogan ran a general store after the war, selling relics from the battles along with other goods. Patsy Smith, an African American woman, lived and worked with Dogan for many years and received a legacy of land after Dogan's death. Their relationship shows one aspect of how whites and blacks negotiated the new world they inhabited after slavery was abolished.

Archaeology on the site could answer many questions that remain about Rosefield, including its exact placement and the support buildings that were on the property. A kitchen survived until the late nineteenth century and there were

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undoubtedly many other structures on the site in the eighteenth century. John Dogan's land tax for buildings nearly doubled in 1857 indicating that he rebuilt or expanded the house or built additional barns or other structures. Another question that remains unanswered is where John Dogan lived after the house was burned in 1862. At the time of the fire the only known buildings that would have had a hearth and chimney were the kitchen and the slave quarters. Since the kitchen survived into the late nineteenth century that may indicate that it was continuously occupied and maintained.

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Rosefield as it appears today

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Introduction

The history of Rosefield stretches back to the first decades of the eighteenth century when Robert “King” Carter patented thousands of acres in what would become Prince William County. The land passed to his son Landon Carter of Sabine Hall and eventually to one of his grandsons, Landon Carter II of Pittsylvania. Robert Carter’s great-grandson, Wormeley Carter established Rosefield as a separate plantation in the 1780s. The eighteenth century was a period of increasing crop diversification in Virginia as more planters began to grow less tobacco and move into grain cultivation. At the same time the population of the colony continued to move westward from the tidewater region in search of available land.

Rosefield remained in the Carter family until the 1840s when John Dogan began to acquire land from Carter heirs. Each succeeding generation had divided the land until most owned only a few hundred acres. By the beginning of the Civil War, Dogan was a prosperous farmer with over 400 acres. The outbreak of the war and the ensuing battles of First and Second Manassas, which crisscrossed the property, devastated the region. Rosefield and at least two other plantation houses in the neighborhood were burned in late 1862. It would be many years before a substantial dwelling was again built on the property.

During the first half of the twentieth century, Rosefield was the home of a number of owners. In the 1940s the National Park Service began to acquire land to create the Manassas National Battlefield Park and Rosefield is now protected within its boundaries.

Rosefield plantation was witness to the transformation of Virginia from a colony of Great Britain to a new nation. It was part of the rise of large plantations in the county and subsequent decline to smaller farms. Transportation developments brought an increase of goods and travelers to the region as the Warrenton Turnpike passed through Rosefield lands and the railroad came to Manassas Junction. It also experienced the destruction of the Civil War and the succeeding period of Reconstruction as Virginians struggled to adapt to a new world order. The history of Rosefield reflects the history of Virginia and the country. It provides a nuanced understanding of the region throughout the eighteenth to twentieth centuries.

Chapter I: The Northern Neck Proprietary and the Development of the Bull Run Lands

The Northern Neck Proprietary

The tidewater region of Virginia was populated in the seventeenth century, but vast tracts of land inhabited only by Native Americans stretched to the west. As settlements began to push back the Native Americans, these lands beckoned to colonists in search of property to establish their own plantations. Before British King Charles II was exiled in 1649 after the death of his father, he granted land in the colonies to some of his supporters, including Lord Culpeper. After Charles was restored to the throne in 1660 the patentees initiated efforts to claim the land. Culpeper acquired rights to all of the land in 1681. At his death it passed to his daughter who married Thomas, Lord Fairfax. The Northern Neck Proprietary or the Fairfax Land Proprietary as it is also known, represented 5,282,000 acres of land between the Rappahannock and Potomac Rivers to their headwaters. The proprietary was plagued with difficulties from the beginning as the exact boundaries were disputed and collecting quit rents on the largely uninhabited lands was challenging. King James II issued a new patent in 1688, which clarified the boundaries. By this point, the entire proprietary had come under the control of Fairfax who was able to more firmly establish a system for collecting the rents.¹

A number of agents served the proprietary including Robert “King” Carter (1664-1732) who served as agent from 1701 -1711 and again from 1722 until his death in 1732. Carter was born in Virginia, but his father, Colonel John Carter had emigrated from England in the seventeenth century. Robert Carter became a man of great influence in the colony, serving as a justice of the peace for Lancaster County, a vestryman for Christ Church Parish, Speaker of the House of Burgesses and he served as a member of the council for over thirty years including a stint as acting governor.²

As an agent for the proprietary, Carter was in a position to know which lands were richest and he took the opportunity to patent thousands of acres in his own name and the names of his children. The 1722 Treaty of Albany assured that the Iroquois would not cross the Blue Ridge or the Potomac without permission.³ With the removal

¹Minor T Weisiger, comp. “Northern Neck Land Proprietary Records.” *The Library of Virginia Research Notes*, Number 23 (Richmond, Va., 2002), 1-2

²Virginius Dabney. *Virginia: The New Dominion, A History from 1607 to the Present* (New York: Doubleday & Co., 1971), 83.

³O’Callaghan, E.B., ed. *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, vol. 5 (Albany, NY: Weed, Parsons, and Co., 1855), 659. The Great Treaty of 1722 Between the Five Nations, the Mohicans, and the Colonies of New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania stated, “You did last year likewise charge & command us not

of this threat, western settlement became far more attractive to speculators like Carter.⁴ In 1724 he patented the Bull Run Tract and the Lower Bull Run Tract. In 1729, he added the Middle Bull Run Tract to his holdings for a total of about 50,000 acres.

At his death, Robert Carter owned approximately 330,000 acres of land in Virginia that was divided among his heirs. The Northern Neck tracts patented by Carter were originally in Stafford County until Prince William County was formed from part of Stafford in 1731. Among his landholdings were one of 6,730 acres and the 41,660-acre Bull Run Tract patented in the name Landon and another of his sons and five grandsons.⁵ The adjacent land of the Middle Bull Run Tract of 2,823 acres was patented in 1729 in his son Landon's name.⁶

Landon Carter of Sabine Hall

Landon Carter of Sabine Hall settled at Richmond County from where he managed his vast landholdings. Although his father's estate was divided between several heirs, Landon Carter remained one of the wealthiest Virginians of his time. By the mid-eighteenth century increasing numbers of colonists were moving away from the tidewater region as the fertility of tobacco fields decreased and the population increased.

Carter sent two of his younger sons, Landon II and John, to manage the properties in Prince William County. Carter makes references to Bull Hall as early as 1756 in his diary, "Reached Bull Hall. My son Landon met me on Broad run about 7 miles from home. We got to the Hall by Sunset, found all well there...Corn all measured and housed. We reckon they will certainly make at least 30 hogsheads there." Bull Hall was the plantation house on Bull Run where Landon II and perhaps his brother John lived for

to go a fighting towards Virginia, not to pass over the great River of Patowmack, nor the Ridge of High Mountains that surround Virginia we have observed your commands to the best of our knowledge in that particular."

⁴Linda Sargent Wood. *Coming to Manassas: Peace, War, and the Making of a Virginia Community*. (A Historic Resource Study for Manassas National Battlefield Park, Manassas, Virginia, National Park Service by the American Public History Laboratory, October 2003), 4-5.

⁵Workers of the Writers' Program of the Works Projects Administration in the State of Virginia. *Prince William: The Story of Its People and Places* (1941. Reprint. Manassas, Va.: Bethlehem Club, 1988), 158.

⁶Peggy Shomo Joyner, comp. *Abstracts of Virginia's Northern Neck Warrants and Surveys: Dunmore, Shenandoah, Culpeper, Prince William, Fauquier, and Stafford Counties, 1710-1780, Vol. III*, (Portsmouth, Va., 1985), 149. The patent reads, "2823 acres on Bull & Licking Runs, both branches of Occoquan, Cub Run; included in tract is a parcel belonging to Jacob Smith whose dwelling house is shown beside Bull Run; adj. Honble Robert Carter's 6730 a. & 41,660 a. tracts."

a time while they became established.⁷ Carter refers to Bull Hall for the last time in a November 1757 entry in his diary. From then on he refers to Bull Run when noting the plantation activities of sons John and Landon II.⁸

Eventually John Carter was established at Sudley where he erected a mill in addition to farming activities. The merchant mill complex included a miller's house, a two-story dwelling house, stone storehouse, and a blacksmith's shop and stable by 1809.⁹ The mill processed lumber and flour and some was sent to the elder Landon Carter's plantation for consumption and some for trade.¹⁰

Landon Carter II lived at his plantation, Pittsylvania, situated along Bull Run. The elder Carter is known for his difficult relationships with both family and associates and this was true of his sons in Prince William as well at different times. However, his relationship with Landon II appears to have been reasonably good and after an altercation between them regarding a woman that Landon was involved with they seem to have had a fairly close relationship. The Carter patriarch kept a close watch over the business and health of his children and grandchildren and made sure that they had the attentions of a doctor when they were ill.¹¹

The elder Carter referred to the dwellings of John and Landon as overseer's houses in a diary entry from 1777. After mentioning that he had received an "affectionate and dutiful" letter from son Landon II, he refers to John as "the mere hero among the brutes if not an Agent of Hell..." John had evidently complained to his father repeatedly about the size and quality of his dwelling place. Landon writes, "Again as to a house he had the same as Landon, an overseer's house to live in. And did I not give him an estate to build with Just the same as I did Landon? Besides do or can any man Provide dwelling houses of taste for all or for any son but the eldest? Was I otherwise treated by my father being a Younger son?"¹² This journal entry provides an informative look into the cultural norms of the mid-eighteenth century. Neither Landon II nor John were eldest sons, consequently they could not expect to receive the same consideration and financial assistance that the eldest brother, Robert Wormeley Carter received, but they were not necessarily satisfied with their lot.

⁷Jack P Greene, ed. *The Diary of Landon Carter of Sabine Hall, 1732-1788*. (Richmond, Va.: Virginia Historical Society, 1987), 132-33. The earliest reference to Bull Run is in 1714. It is unknown why it was so named. See "What's In a Name? Bull Run," *Prince William Reliquary* Vol. 5, No. 4, 88.

⁸*Ibid.*, 189.

⁹*Alexandria Gazette*, October 4, 1809. John Carter's son Landon of Woodland offered the property and sixty acres for sale in 1809. His father passed away in 1789.

¹⁰Greene. *Diary of Landon Carter*. After John Carter's death the property passed to his son Landon Carter of Woodland who donated a parcel of the land for the establishment of Sudley Church. See also Ratcliffe, *This Was Prince William* (Leesburg, Va.: Potomac Press, 1978), 97; Matthews, 2.2.

¹¹*Ibid.*, 142-42, 1096.

¹²*Ibid.*, 1122-23. Robert Wormeley Carter was the eldest son of Landon Carter of Sabine Hall. Landon II and John were second and third sons, respectively.

Landon Carter of Sabine Hall's will explicitly laid out the division of his land. To sons John and Landon II he left "my Bull Run Tracts of Land to be equally divided between them...Landon on the old Quarter and my son John on the New Quarter."¹³ John and Landon II inherited from their father the 2,823-acre wedge-shaped Middle Bull Run Tract and his share of the Bull Run Tract - some of the property was rented to others outside the family.¹⁴ Landon II ended up with 2,600 acres in Prince William County and other land in Loudoun and Fauquier counties, as well as lots in Leesburg. Additionally, Landon received one half part of his father's lands on Goose Creek, all of the slaves already on the Bull Run lands that he inherited, twenty-one additional slaves from his father's properties, as well as "his man Will as his absolute property." The elder Carter had only lent this slave to his son, but after his death he was to have full ownership of the slave.¹⁵

Landon Carter II and Pittsylvania

Landon Carter, Junior was forty years old when his father died in 1778 and he inherited the lands he had long tended. Prince William County tax records reveal that for the years 1788 through 1793 he paid taxes on 2600 acres.¹⁶ Pittsylvania was the home of Landon and his wife, Judith Fauntleroy Carter, and their children as well as the slaves serving as domestics in the house or as field laborers. Landon and Judith had eight children that survived to adulthood: four boys and four girls.¹⁷ Landon's union with a daughter of the Fauntleroy family was a "strategic marriage." It was important to members of Landon Carter of Sabine Hall's echelon of society that their children marry into families that would enhance their prestige and wealth.¹⁸ The elder Landon Carter had strongly disapproved of one of the women that his son had been courting. In October

¹³Richmond County, Virginia Wills. Will of Landon Carter of Sabine Hall, 1770/1779, 2. The will was written in 1770. Between that year and 1773, Carter had already given land to his sons. An accounting of quitrents owed to Lord Fairfax states, "By quitrents of 5027 Acres now the property of Landon Carter, Junr. Esqr. Of Prince William County for 13 years that is from 1761 to 1773 both inclusive." Carter Family Papers, 1659-1797, Reel 1, microfilm.

¹⁴Virginia Writer's Project. *Prince William, the Story of Its People and Places*, 158.

¹⁵Richmond County Wills, Will of Landon Carter 8.

¹⁶Prince William County Land Tax Records, 1788-1793, microfilm. The records show that Carter consistently paid tax on 2600 acres until 1793 when 600 acres were transferred to Wormeley Carter.

¹⁷Judith's parents were Colonel Moore Fauntleroy and Margaret Micou of Richmond County, Virginia.

¹⁸Kathleen M. Brown. *Good Wives, Nasty Wenches and Anxious Patriarchs: Gender, Race, and Power in Colonial Virginia* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1996), 256.

of 1757, he recorded a troubling conversation with Landon in his diary, "I with great mildness asked him if he did not think that as he was to go up to Bull Hall tomorrow he ought to have staid at home to have taken my directions with regard to my affairs and if he did not think this Sauntering from house to house only to inflame himself the more by visiting a woman that he knew that I could never Consent to his marrying would not ruin him and contrary to his duty. He answered very calmly No."¹⁹ The elder Carter went so far as to threaten to strike his son from his will if he did not give up the undesirable alliance. They passed through this trial with the younger Landon's eventual marriage into a family that met with his father's approval. At this point, although Landon II was managing thousands of acres of his father's lands, he was still working on behalf of his father and his own eventual inheritance – a fact his father reminded him of often. He could not afford to lose the advantages he had as the son of Landon Carter of Sabine Hall.

The eldest child of Landon and Judith Carter was Wormeley born in 1760. He was named after his paternal grandmother's family name. The Wormeley family had been in Virginia since the early 1600s. Ralph Wormeley located his family seat, Rosegill, in Middlesex County. The birth of Wormeley was followed by the birth of three brothers and four sisters.²⁰

The house at Pittsylvania was probably built around the time that he was married in the late 1750s. Prior to that he may have inhabited a more modest structure during the establishment of the plantation.²¹ Pittsylvania was situated on a hill in a grove of locust trees with a spring at the base of the hill. It was described as a tall frame structure fifty by thirty feet on a stone foundation with two central chimneys. There was a brick wine vault in the cellar and porches on either side of the house.²² The property probably had numerous support buildings. Eighteenth-century plantations resembled little villages with dairies, smokehouses, kitchens, and slave dwellings surrounding the main house. A smoke house stood at the back of the house along with a well. To the northeast was the weaver's house and the family cemetery was southwest of the house. A barn stood in the field at the back of the house and to the west was they rye-yard where grain was threshed.

¹⁹Greene. *Diary of Landon Carter*, 185.

²⁰A child named Landon had died in 1770. See Appendix A for the names of Carter's other children.

²¹Prior to the end of 1757, Landon Carter refers to Bull Hall. Thereafter he uses only Bull Run in mentions of his son Landon's plantation. Earliest mention of his sons being in Prince William County is 1756. See Greene. *Diary of Landon Carter*, 133, 142-3, 189, 452, et al.

²²Dr. Edward F. Corson. "Our Trip May 1929." Unpublished manuscript. Rosefield and Pittsylvania vertical file, Dr. E.F. Corson Papers, Manassas National Battlefield Park Library, Manassas, Virginia, 3-5. Open porches would have been unusual in the eighteenth century and were probably added in the antebellum period. See *An Illustrated Glossary of Early Southern Architecture and Landscape*, edited by Carl Lounsbury (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1999), 285-86.

Slave cabins were scattered about the property and a slave cemetery was 600 yards northwest of the house.²³

The house was described as being the most impressive of the Carter mansions in the area with rich wallpaper and other furnishings sent from England.²⁴ The two central chimneys supplied heat to the rooms, possibly corner fireplaces for four rooms on each floor. The residents of Pittsylvania lived with refined furnishings. There were twenty mahogany chairs and several looking glasses and a bookcase. Tea was served in a silver pot and sets of silver spoons graced the table. There were nine beds in the house and the kitchen was supplied with all of the requisite pots and pans.²⁵

Landon Carter II grew corn, oats, tobacco and wheat on his large plantation. In addition to agriculture, Carter also had pastures for livestock and woodlots reserved for fuel for heating and cooking as well as building and fencing materials. His lands supported pigs, a flock of sheep and a herd of cattle. 1771 appears to have been an especially good growing year and in July Landon Senior recorded in his diary that although the harvest had not yet begun, the wheat and other crops at Pittsylvania were “prodigious fine.”²⁶ Any excess of his grains over what he needed to feed his family, slaves, and livestock was processed at his brother John’s mill at Sudley and possibly sold at Dumfries. Carter also grew flax, which could be processed and turned into linen fabric. He wrote his father that, “the flax is good which is gathered and [prepare] instantly to make myself acquainted with that business as I see too many naked people about me.”²⁷

Dumfries served as the seat of Prince William County government from 1759 to 1822. The tobacco crop was transported there as well for shipment to England in exchange for household goods.²⁸ Dumfries Road, which ran from the town to the mountains near Ashby’s Gap, was one of the main thoroughfares of the times.²⁹ The town’s location at the juncture of Quantico Creek and the Potomac River supported an active port with merchants, taverns and ordinaries as well as venues of entertainment such as racetracks and cock fighting pits. A new courthouse was erected in the 1760s as well as a prison and warehouses.³⁰

²³Ibid., 3-5; Pittsylvania-Vogt Vertical File, loose papers. Manassas Museum.

²⁴Alice Maude Ewell. *A Virginia Scene or Life in Old Prince William*. (Lynchburg, Va.: J.P. Bell Co., 1931), 167.

²⁵Prince William County Will Book H: Inventory of Landon Carter, 1801.

²⁶Greene. *Diary of Landon Carter*, 591.

²⁷Letter from Landon Carter, Jr. to Landon Carter, 19 July 1776. Carter Family Papers, 1657-1797, microfilm.

²⁸Ibid., 1096.

²⁹Matthew B. Reeves, ed. *An Archaeological Investigation of Stone House, Manassas Battlefield Park, Manassas, Virginia* (Manassas National Battlefield Park, 2001), 2.1. Ashby’s Gap was at the county lines of Fauquier and Loudoun counties near Paris, Virginia.

³⁰Lee C. Lansing, Jr., *Historic Dumfries Virginia* (Historic Dumfries Virginia, Inc., 1987), 17-19.

Agriculture and Labor in Eighteenth-century Virginia

Preparing the land for agriculture was a laborious undertaking. When the first settlers arrived in Prince William County they had to clear the land of trees and underbrush before going about creating fields and pastures. Draft animals were used to help clear the ground as well as for cultivation. Oxen were strong enough to wear the heavy plowing equipment available in the eighteenth century. Some breeds of cattle could also serve as draft animals as well as provide beef, veal, milk, butter, cream and cheese. Hogs were generally allowed to run loose to forage for acorns and other foodstuff that could be found on the ground. Pork provided meat for everyone, but generally was the main source of protein for slaves.

In the late eighteenth century more efficient plows were introduced as well as the cradle and scythe for harvesting crops. Dedicated proponents of improvements in agriculture such as Thomas Jefferson and George Washington designed new plows. Washington designed a barrel plow consisting of a wooden barrel cylinder filled with seed that turned as the draft animal pulled the plow forward. The ground was tilled as the seeds were planted thus combining two separate tasks into one.³¹

In the early years of the century, seeds were sown by hand and cultivation was done by hoe after the plow broke up the ground. Sickles were used for harvest and threshing grain was accomplished by one of two methods. The stalks of wheat or rye could be beaten with flails on the wooden floor of a barn or covered shed forcing the grain off the stalk. Another method was to lay the grain out on the ground and drive horses around in a circle where their hooves would separate the grain from the shaft.

The tools that were recorded in the inventories of Landon Carter in 1801 and his son Wormeley in 1815 are much the same and some may have been passed down in the family. Hames and traces were part of the harness that connected the plow or cart to draft animals and swingle trees balanced the pull of the plow as the animal advanced down the field. Tools for harvesting grain included swingles - thin bars used to beat the grain from the hull in threshing. Scythes and cradles harvested the grain from the field. A variety of hoes were employed for maintaining the fields including grubbing hoes used to cut through hard sod and roots and for trench digging. Hilling hoes created mounds for crops like tobacco, corn, and potatoes.

The Dutch plow was developed in Holland but was being copied in Great Britain by the early eighteenth century. It was considered one of the lightest plows and had the additional attribute of being inexpensive. Landon Carter II had fourteen Dutch plows and twenty-four hilling hoes, indications of the large number of acres he had under cultivation and the large number of slaves he had to perform the labor. Wormeley had far fewer

³¹Alan and Donna Jean Fusonie. *George Washington Pioneer Farmer* (Mount Vernon, Va.: Mount Vernon Ladies Association),18.

slaves to work his land. Accordingly, his inventory recorded only four plows and five hilling hoes.³²

Punishments could be harsh for slaves who broke the law. Landon Carter's slave named Kit was accused of stealing a horse from a Prince William County resident in 1756. Kit pleaded not guilty, but the testimony of witnesses led the court to question his innocence. The court ruled "that the said Kit is not guilty of the fact so as to suffer death but it is ordered that he be set in the pillory for the space of five minutes and that one of his ears be nailed thereto and from then be cut loose and that he also receive thirty nine lashes on his bare back well laid on."³³

Advertisements for runaway slaves frequently appeared in newspapers revealing that it was a constant temptation for slaves to break free from such draconian punishments. Two residents complained to the county court that Landon Carter of Sabine Hall had not paid them the reward for their part in the return of two different slaves named Harry and Bob.³⁴

An inventory taken at the time of Landon Carter's death includes the names of 148 slaves. Many were field laborers but there were individuals with specialized jobs. Joe worked as a blacksmith and George's job is listed as wagoner. Together they would have kept the wagons and carriages in working order and Joe would have shod the hooves of some of the seventeen horses on the estate. Tom, a weaver, and Phil the shoemaker probably kept the slaves supplied with clothing and footwear as well as basic items for the family.³⁵

Landon Carter of Pittsylvania died in 1801. His daughter, Judith, received a letter from a friend in June of that year indicating that he had been ill for some time, writing, "Your Papa is at last departed it was a thing long expected & I hope you were prepared for the shock."³⁶ The Prince William lands he had inherited from Landon Carter of Sabine Hall were left to his eldest son, Wormeley. Other sons inherited the land in Loudoun and Fauquier counties. All four sons were to divide the land he owned in the town of Leesburg in Loudoun County and all four were also to divide all slaves, stock, and plantation utensils. To his unmarried daughters he left the use of his dwelling house and yard and garden to encompass ten acres of land and eight slaves as long as at least one of them remained unmarried.³⁷ The will does not stipulate who would take possession of the house if all of the daughters should marry. Landon Carter was buried in the family cemetery at Pittsylvania.³⁸

³²PWC Will Book K:452, microfilm.

³³PWC Order Book 1755-1757:254.

³⁴PWC Minute Book 1752-1753:305, microfilm.

³⁵PWC Will Book H. Inventory of the Estate of Landon Carter, 1801, microfilm.

³⁶SC to Judith Carter, 20 June [1801]. Isaac Henry Papers, Manassas National Battlefield Park.

³⁷Prince William County Will Book H, 451-456. Will of Landon Carter, January 1798, microfilm.

³⁸Pittsylvania Cemetery Register Form (pwcvaabooks.com/cemeteries)

Wormeley Carter and the Development of Rosefield

In 1780, the capital of Virginia moved from Williamsburg to Richmond in response to the shift in population to the west. Lands formerly considered on the frontier like Prince William became more highly populated. As some of the first settlers died, their lands were divided among their heirs and the number of households increased. As each succeeding generation divided their land among their heirs, the size of plantations grew smaller decreasing profitability.

Wormeley Carter was born with an impressive pedigree. In addition to his Carter family he was related to the Wormeley family through his paternal grandmother, Elizabeth Wormeley.³⁹ The Wormeley family had been in Virginia since the early seventeenth century and had amassed a considerable fortune. Wormeley Carter's childhood was spent between his father's house at Pittsylvania and his grandfather Carter's plantation, Sabine Hall in Richmond County. Wormeley lived a privileged life as a member of the Carter family. His father doted on him writing, "My little babies have been all very ill...my Love for them increases more and more."⁴⁰ In addition to his large family, Wormeley's world consisted of numerous slaves who had the responsibility of caring for him and the family.

Landon Carter of Sabine Hall was very involved in the health of his children and grandchildren. The field of medicine remained rooted in herbal remedies and practices such as blood letting. There were few doctors to serve the far-flung population and planters had to tend to the sickbeds of their families and slaves. Landon Carter did send a doctor to tend to his son at the Bull Run plantation in 1757 when he heard that he might be ill with small pox. Letters were filled with concerns about health and Carter extended his concerns to his grandchildren as well. In the summer of 1770 he received the news that one of Landon Carter, Jr.'s children had died of dysentery. All of the children had the illness including Wormeley and Carter expressed his concern for their health.⁴¹ In April of 1777 Carter wrote, "My son Landon and two of his Sons were under Inoculation in the town [Dumfries.] ...I see the Small Pox is never to be out of that town."⁴² In February of 1774, Carter recorded that his grandchildren were staying with him and all, including Wormeley, were ill. Six months later in August, Carter noted that Wormeley had received a letter from his father at Pittsylvania informing his son that he was ill with colic.⁴³

³⁹Elizabeth Wormeley Carter was the sister of Ralph Wormeley of Rosegill in Middlesex County. The family had been in Virginia since the early 1600s. Appointed to the Council in 1771, Ralph Wormeley was eventually confined to his estate in Frederick County because of his sympathies to the Crown during the American Revolution.

⁴⁰Letter to Landon Carter of Sabine Hall, 1 January 1764. Carter Family Papers, 1659-1797, Reel 1, microfilm.

⁴¹Greene, ed. *Diary of Landon Carter*, 142-3, 452. Dysentery was called the flux during the eighteenth century.

⁴²*Ibid.*, 1096.

⁴³Greene, ed. *Diary of Landon Carter*, 792, 842.

The elder Carter also took responsibility for the education of his grandsons. He placed an ad in the *Virginia Gazette* advertising for a tutor for five or six of his grandsons. He noted his belief that a tutor could not effectively teach more boys than that at a time. They were to be instructed in grammar, writing, and arithmetic. The next year he placed a similar ad to replace the first tutor who had already resigned his position.⁴⁴ While they were with him Carter also provided clothing for his grandsons. They may have traveled with him to Ritchie's Store in Tappahannock, Virginia not far from Sabine Hall to purchase the items.⁴⁵

The Carter family had complicated relationships but they appear to have been very close and spent a great deal of time in each other's company. Wormeley stood as godparent at the baptism of his cousin Lucy at Sabine Hall when he was in his early teens.⁴⁶ His aunt Judith was a frequent visitor to Pittsylvania before her marriage and the Pittsylvania Carter's undoubtedly socialized with their Carter cousins at Sudley.⁴⁷ Most of Wormeley's siblings remained in the area so many of his neighbors were close relatives including Wormeley's sister Judith who married Isaac Henry and later lived within sight of Rosefield. A great-nephew of Wormeley Carter wrote, "I often think of the happy days we once spent at Pittsylvania and Rosefield. We could see each other so often."⁴⁸

The Revolutionary War did have some impact on Prince William County. Citizens of the county met in Dumfries at one of the earliest local revolutionary meetings in the colony. The Prince William County Resolves recommended, "No person ought to be taxed but by his own consent."⁴⁹ Militia groups were formed and citizens of the county served in the war. Wormeley Carter filed a Public Service Claim in 1782 for a six-year-old bay horse valued at forty pounds sterling. His father, Landon, and many other residents of the county submitted claims for beef to supply the troops.⁵⁰

Wormeley appeared on land tax rolls in 1782 for Loudoun County where he may have been managing some of his father's lands. He paid tax for himself and ten slaves.⁵¹ Wormeley first appears on the Personal Property Tax lists for Prince William County in 1783 when he paid a tithe for three free adult males over twenty-one years of age, ten tithable slaves and twelve non-tithable slaves, indicating that they were less than sixteen

⁴⁴*Virginia Gazette*, Rind: 3:2, March 12, 1772; Ibid., Rind: 3:2, October 14, 1773.

⁴⁵"A List of all my papers in the House," March 30, 1773. Carter Family Papers, 1659-1797, Reel 1 (microfilm).

⁴⁶Greene, ed. *Diary of Landon Carter*, 759.

⁴⁷Ibid., 583, 588.

⁴⁸Letter from Edwin L. Carter to Cousin Mary 7 March 1894 (Edwin L. Carter Papers, Manassas National Battlefield Park).

⁴⁹"Did You Know? Prince William Citizens Took an Active Part in Starting the Revolution" *Prince William Reliquary* 7:4:100.

⁵⁰Prince William County Court Order Book, 1778-1785:153, microfilm.

⁵¹Augusta B. Fothergill and John Mark Naugle. *Virginia Taxpayers 1782-1787; other than those published by the United States Census Bureau* (Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1940, 1999).

years old.⁵² For the years 1783-1800, Wormeley paid tax on a fairly consistent number of livestock and slaves. The 1787 list is representative with tax paid on twenty-one slaves, a dozen cattle, and a dozen horses and/or mules. In addition, Carter paid tax for Richard Seale who may have been serving as an overseer.⁵³

Records suggest that Wormeley married Sally Edwards in 1787 at which time he may have established himself on some of his father's lands in an independent household. He would have been approximately twenty-seven years old in that year.⁵⁴ In 1793 he purchased 600 acres of land from his father for a token amount of 5 shillings. The indenture presented at court on April 1 of that year between Landon Carter II and Wormeley Carter included "a certain tract of land whereon he has for some time resided containing Six hundred acres lying about his said Wormley's Dwelling House."⁵⁵ Rosefield was situated southwest of Pittsylvania on a knoll overlooking Young's Branch. It was surrounded by cleared land with woodlots sprinkled across the property.⁵⁶ It may be that the dwelling to which the indenture referred was built as early as 1787 when Wormeley and Sally were married.⁵⁷ Wormeley and Sally Edwards Carter's first child, Ann, was born in 1790.

At his father's death in 1801, Wormeley inherited the rest of the Prince William land in addition to the 600 acres he had owned since 1793, land in the town of Leesburg in Loudoun County, slaves, and farm equipment. Pittsylvania was left to Wormeley's unmarried sisters as long as any remained single.⁵⁸ It has been suggested that Wormeley eventually moved to the Pittsylvania house, but in 1815, both he and his sister Elizabeth paid property taxes, which indicates that he was still living at Rosefield and she was at Pittsylvania. That same year the Rosefield dwelling was valued at 500 dollars and the house at Pittsylvania at 1500 dollars.⁵⁹ While he had a large amount of resources to be a successful planter, Carter appears to have had financial difficulties for some time. He

⁵²PWC Personal Property Tax, 1783, microfilm.

⁵³PWC Personal Property Tax, 1783-1800, microfilm.

⁵⁴Netti Schreiner-Yantis and Florene Speakman Love, comp. "Prince William County Personal Property Tax 1787 – List A." *The 1787 Census of Virginia* (Springfield: Va.: Genealogical Books in Print, 1976), 890.

⁵⁵Prince William County Deed Book Y, 1791-1796; PWC Land Tax, 1794. In 1794, Landon paid tax on 2000 acres and Wormeley 600 acres.

⁵⁶Maureen De Lay Joseph. Northwest Quadrant Manassas, National Battlefield Park, Cultural Landscape Inventory, 1996.

⁵⁷Thomas E. McGarry. Manassas National Battlefield Park, Virginia, Archaeological Survey, 1982. McGarry reports that during a site visit in 1981 it was observed that the "existing house has a cellar..." which "appears on simple visual inspection to be similar in size and construction to the cellars at Pittsylvania and Van Pelt. It is quite likely that the present house was built over the ruins of Rosefield..."

⁵⁸Prince William County Will Book H:451-456, microfilm.

⁵⁹Joseph. Northwest Quadrant, 3-3; Prince William County Personal Property Tax, 1815, microfilm.

sold a tract of land to Henry Dogan of Peach Grove and John Lee of Willow Green in 1810.⁶⁰

Wormeley and Sally had nine children. Their large family and farm were supported by the labor of twenty-five slaves. The tools and equipment that he owned indicate that Wormeley farmed the same crops that his father had: corn, wheat, and oats. However, by this period it was doubtful if he was still involved in tobacco agriculture. Tobacco was certainly not his primary crop. The tobacco trade had been interrupted by the Revolution and most farmers who had not already diversified into grains did so at that time. Tobacco agriculture was labor intensive and depleted the soil. Wormeley did not have the advantage of the same amount of slaves that his father had to keep thousands of acres under cultivation.

In addition to his agricultural endeavors Wormeley operated a stud farm. He paid tax for eighteen stud horses in 1807. The categories for payment on the personal property tax changed from year to year so it is difficult to know how many years he was involved in earning fees from his stud horses. Only one horse was listed as a stud horse on the final inventory of his possessions eight years later.⁶¹ Not only were horses necessary for transportation, but also horse racing was a popular leisure activity in Virginia at the time.

Little is known of the house that Wormeley Carter built or the surrounding yard. The house was probably not as large as Pittsylvania. There was a separate kitchen, which was extant as late as 1898.⁶² The interior furnishings of Rosefield reflect Carter's social and economic status. The presence of furniture made of walnut and a mahogany card table places his inventory in the top percentage of taxpayers. Such items appear as individual categories on the 1815 Personal Property tax chart. Items grouped together on the inventory were a buffet with a knife box holding forks and knives. Over it hung a looking glass, which would have reflected candles or lamps and increased the light in the room. His dining room furnishings also included a silver creamer, a dozen silver teaspoons, and six silver tablespoons.⁶³

Wormeley Carter of Rosefield passed away in 1815. Carter named his eldest son, Landon Carter, and son-in-law, Robert Hamilton, as executors of his will. At his death his son Landon inherited three hundred acres "so laid off as to include Pittsylvania and a portion of wood land."⁶⁴ Second son Wormeley was to receive two hundred and fifty acres that could not interfere with either the Pittsylvania or Rosefield lands. The eldest child, Ann Hamilton, inherited the house at Rosefield and was to receive an equal share of land around the house of what was left over divided with her five remaining siblings.⁶⁵ The other six children were to receive equal acreages each with a stand of woods. Sons Landon and Wormeley, Junior each gave up forty acres of what they had inherited to

⁶⁰Prince William County Deed Book 4:404, microfilm.

⁶¹Prince William County Will Book K:452, microfilm.

⁶²Letter from Virginia M. Carter, 14 April 1898. Typescript excerpts. Manassas National Battlefield Park.

⁶³Prince William County Will Book K:452-453, microfilm.

⁶⁴Prince William County Will Book K: 440, microfilm.

⁶⁵Ibid. Ann Hamilton received 125 acres.

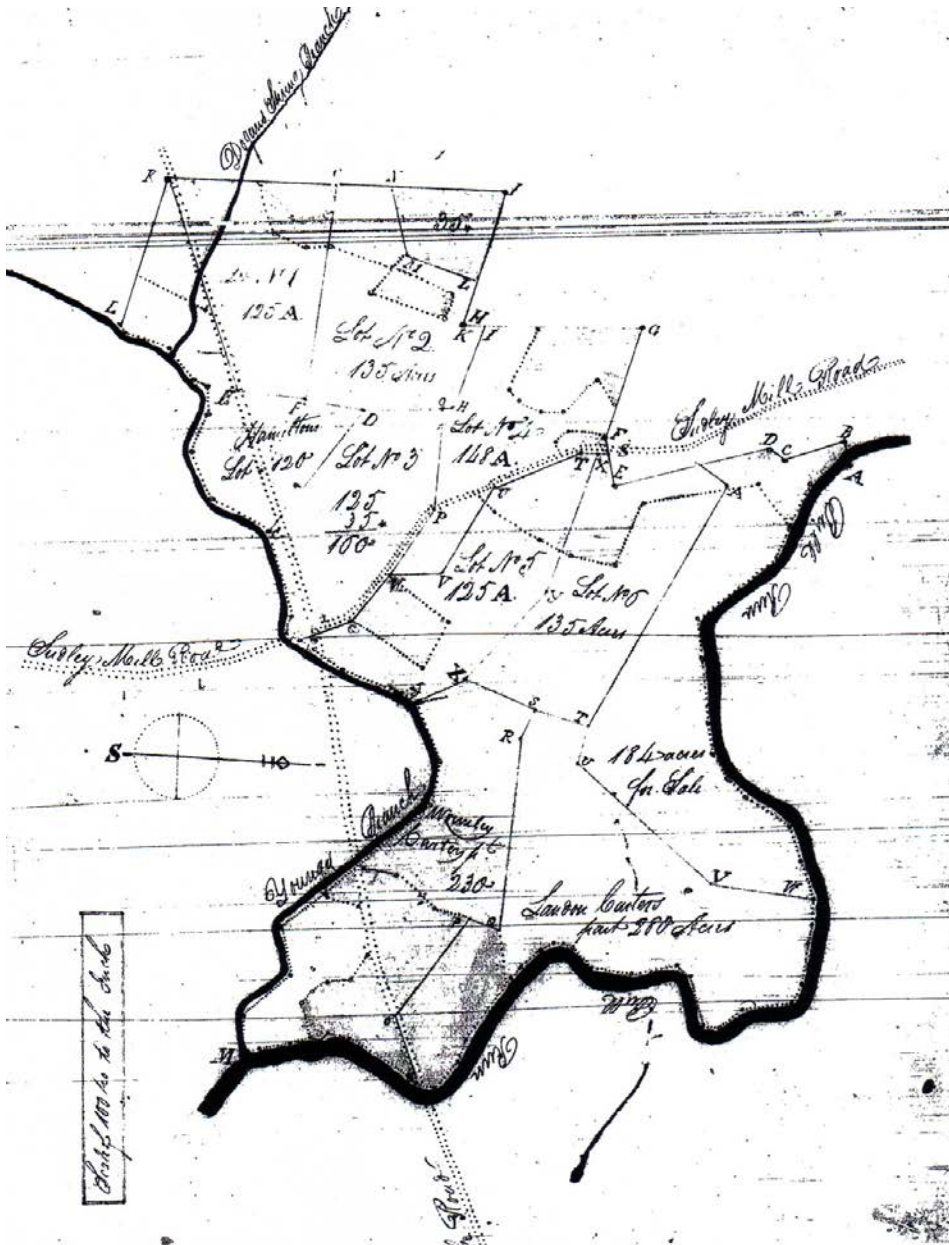


Figure 1: Plat of Wormeley Carter's land holdings in Prince William County at the time of his death in 1815. The property was divided into ten tracts with some specified for individuals but the others were distributed by drawing lots.

provide their siblings with larger acreages. Once the land was surveyed they drew lots to determine which parcel they would inherit. The remaining property was divided thus:

- Lot 1 in the amount of 125 acres was drawn by Charles Ewell, husband of Lucy
- Lot 2 in the amount of 135 acres was drawn by Addison Carter
- Lot 3 in the amount of 160 acres was drawn by Kitty Carter (she received a 125 acre parcel and another of 35 acres which was not contiguous)
- Lot 4 in the amount of 148 acres was drawn by Judith Carter
- Lot 5 in the amount of 125 acres was drawn by Thomas Otway Carter
- Lot 6 in the amount of 135 acres went to Richard Henry Carter

An additional parcel of 184 acres was to be sold to help cover debts against the estate.⁶⁶

The inventory of Carter's personal estate was presented to the court in September of 1815. It included his slaves, livestock, farm implements and tools, and household furnishings for a total value of \$6,335.16. The slaves constituted the largest portion of that total equaling over \$5,000.00.⁶⁷ Wormeley Carter left behind debts as well. To pay off these obligations, land and slaves were sold. Seven slaves were sold including Simon for five hundred dollars and Old Sally for fifty dollars. The sale of 184 acres brought \$1,314.28 and the sale of a studhorse another two hundred dollars.⁶⁸

Carter's heirs met once again in 1816 to draw lots to determine which of his personal property they would receive. After the sale of some of the slaves, those remaining were valued at \$4,060.00. Each of Carter's children was to receive one ninth of the total value, which came to just over four hundred and fifty dollars. Lots were drawn and each child received a number of slaves equaling approximately the amount of their share. Once again, sons Landon and Wormeley offered to take lots of less value to provide a greater portion to their siblings. Once the lots were drawn, those that had received greater value were directed to pay cash to those that had lots of lesser value to make each portion equal.⁶⁹ The estate was not settled until 1822 when it was ruled that the executors could receive their commission of five percent on the sales and two and one half percent of the disbursements.

Several of Carter's children were minors at his death. There is no mention of his wife in the record at his death so she may have died some years before. The children may have remained at Rosefield with their oldest sister, Ann Hamilton, who was married and expecting her first child the year her father died.

One of the Wormeley's largest debts would continue to haunt his heirs for many years. Wormeley had signed a promissory note to pay Humphrey Peake "one thousand and forty nine dollars and sixty-five cents for value received of him" in September of

⁶⁶PWC Land Causes, 1805-1849, 65-66, microfilm. Wormeley Carter sold two tracts of land prior to his death: 468 acres in 1811 and 205 acres in 1814, which left 1,927 acres. PWC Land Tax, 1811 and 1814, microfilm.

⁶⁷PWC Will Book K:452-53, microfilm.

⁶⁸PWC Will Book L:479-83, microfilm.

⁶⁹PWC Land Causes 1805-1849:70, microfilm.

1812. In that same year, Humphrey Peake was elected president of the board of the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike, or Warrenton Turnpike, as it is commonly known. Wormeley's executors, Robert Hamilton, his son-in-law, and Landon Carter, his eldest son, were sued for non-payment of this debt nineteen years after his death.⁷⁰ This debt may have been for improvements to the Warrenton Turnpike.

⁷⁰Ron. Turner. *Prince William County Virginia Clerk's Loose Papers Volume VIII*, 28-31. "Robert J. Taylor assee of Humphrey Peake Plaintiff Against Robert Hamilton and Landon Carter Exors. of Wormely Carter deceased defendants", 8 August 1834.

Chapter II: The Antebellum Years at Rosefield

The Warrenton Turnpike

Travel across Prince William County in the first half of the eighteenth century was on old Indian trails most comfortably crossed on horseback. A few “rolling roads” developed, so called because hogsheads of tobacco were rolled along them to the ports on the Occoquan River. After 1750, bridges began to be built across the many rivers, runs, and streams that crisscrossed the land.⁷¹

Around 1790 a road began to be constructed that linked Alexandria to Fauquier County and towns flourished along the way including Centreville, Buckland, Haymarket, and Providence, which would soon be called Fairfax and became the county seat of Fairfax County. This road ran through the Carter lands and the residents of Rosefield would take advantage of their frontage on the turnpike.

The construction of the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike reflected the new emphasis on Alexandria as the major port in the region. The port at Dumfries had silted over from agricultural activities inland and at the river’s edge. As a result, improved roads to the east became a priority. Alexandria had become the link to national and international markets for Prince William and the surrounding counties. By about 1808 the turnpike stretched from Warrenton to Germantown passing through New Baltimore, Buckland, Gainesville, Groveton, and Centreville.⁷² The first phase brought the turnpike from Germantown to Bull Run. A few years later it was taken through the Rosefield property past Sudley Mill Road.⁷³

An Act of the 1810 Virginia Assembly established the position of director for the turnpike corporation to represent Alexandria, the District of Columbia, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Loudoun, Prince William and Shenandoah counties. Humphrey Peake, a friend of Wormeley Carter’s, was elected to be director for Prince William and money for the construction was collected through a tithe from each landowner to maintain the road in their locale. The road was built but it remained nearly impassible for much of the year.⁷⁴

There were further improvements to the Warrenton Turnpike in 1823 and 1824; however, the quality of the road caused the local citizens to petition the Board of Public Works for, improvement. They complained that the condition of the road was such that

⁷¹Wood. 17.

⁷²Elmer T. Crowson. *Historic Structures Report: William Henry Dogan House, Manassas National Battlefield Park*, 1958, 8.

⁷³Reeves, ed. *Stone House*, 2.2-2.4.

⁷⁴Wood. 18.

most people avoided it altogether and crossed fields rather than get stuck in the road. By the end of 1824 the road had been re-laid with macadam, a method of paving roads developed in Great Britain in the early nineteenth century, and a new bridge over Bull Run was constructed in 1825. One of three tollgates between Groveton and Fairfax Courthouse was at the intersection of Sudley Road and the Warrenton Turnpike.⁷⁵ John Sudduth operated the tollgate in the 1840s. Sudduth lived there with his wife and one young slave boy.⁷⁶

The little crossroads of Groveton developed after the roads improved. Situated at the intersection of the Warrenton Turnpike and Groveton Road it benefited from the increase in travelers. In addition to Sudley Mill, there was also a store and a blacksmith shop in operation nearby.⁷⁷ Tolls were collected at a gate near the intersection of Sudley Road. Stagecoaches passed by Rosefield and through Groveton twice a week after 1827 running from Alexandria to the Orange County Courthouse. The proprietor of the mail coach advertised that the line “passes through a populous and picturesque country.” The notice also proclaimed that the coaches were comfortable, driven by “strong, active Horses” under the care of “discreet, careful drivers.” It took from 5 A.M. one day until 2 P.M. the next to travel from Fairfax Courthouse to Orange Courthouse for a fare of six dollars.⁷⁸

Many of the residents of the Groveton area had businesses in addition to their farming activities. Taverns and wagon stands were needed to support the travelers along the turnpike. James Robinson, a free black man living along the turnpike, ran a drover’s stop for individuals moving livestock to and from market.⁷⁹ Edmund Berkeley ran a spoke factory at his Evergreen plantation about ten miles from Groveton. The business shipped spokes to such distant places as New Orleans and New York. Other people ran small mercantile establishments to provide goods to their neighborhoods selling necessary items such as tea, coffee, glass, stationery, and farm implements.⁸⁰

The Hamilton Years at Rosefield

Ann Fauntleroy Carter was the eldest child of Wormeley and Sarah Edwards Carter. She was born at Rosefield in 1788 and lived there until 1846. Married to Robert Hamilton in 1812, she inherited Rosefield from her father at his death in 1815 as well as 120 acres of land surrounding the house.⁸¹ Robert Hamilton was a magistrate for the

⁷⁵Reeves, ed. *Stone House*, 2.4

⁷⁶Reeves, ed. *Stone House*, 2.14; Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 59.

⁷⁷Wood., 19

⁷⁸*Alexandria Gazette*, 16 March 1827.

⁷⁹Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 59.

⁸⁰*Ibid.*, 60-61.

⁸¹Ann Carter and Robert Hamilton were cousins. Ann’s mother, Sarah was a sister-in-law to Robert’s father’s sister Ann Hamilton Edwards. Edwards lived near or with the Robert Hamilton’s and helped Ann financially after Robert’s death.

Prince William County Court. He was identified as a “gentleman;” a title that identified him as a landowner and a man of standing in the community.⁸² Hamilton was one of the founding trustees of Sudley Methodist Church in 1822; served as a justice of the peace; and was elected a sheriff of Prince William County in 1835.⁸³

Hamilton supplemented his income as a county magistrate in a variety of ways.⁸⁴ He did not have enough land or slaves to support a large agricultural enterprise, never owning more than thirteen slaves.⁸⁵ He grew hay, wheat and oats on his land. He had one ox for plowing and only enough milk cows for family use.⁸⁶ Hamilton appears not to have been involved in tobacco agriculture, but his brother-in-law, Wormeley Carter, Junior, was shipping tobacco to market as late as 1820.⁸⁷ Along with his income from the court, he rented rooms to travelers. Hamilton held a license of private entertainment for the years 1823, 1830 and 1831.⁸⁸ The license for private entertainment allowed the holder to charge a fee for lodging or meals for travelers and stabling horses within five miles of a town, but did not authorize the sale of wine or liquor. Rosefield also served as a post office in 1825 and 1826 with Hamilton’s brother-in-law Richard Carter serving as postmaster.⁸⁹

While serving as a magistrate, Hamilton executed legal matters and served at the Brentsville Courthouse, which was completed in 1822. He was often involved in court

⁸²Robert Hamilton was the son of John Tayloe Hamilton and Susannah Beale Hamilton. His uncle, Robert Hamilton, received a legacy from Landon Carter of Sabine Hall. Gilbert Hamilton who was the father of John Tayloe Hamilton had been a close friend of Carter and a brother-in-law through Carter’s marriage to third wife Elizabeth Beale. See Appendix A.

⁸³Ron Turner. *Prince William County Clerk’s Loose Papers, Vol. I*, 66 (5 June 1826, et al); (No author) “Prince William County Sheriffs 1731-1904” (*Prince William Reliquary* Vol. 4 No. 2), 30-31.

⁸⁴Hamilton was paid \$44 for “processioning 44 days @ \$1 per” by the court on June 4, 1833. Turner. *Prince William County Virginia Court Minutes 1833-1838: Five Years at the Brentsville Court*, 8.

⁸⁵Because of the three-fifths compromise Hamilton paid tax for three slaves but five were listed on the census in 1820. In 1830 he paid tax for six slaves but thirteen were listed on the census. The compromise was reached in 1787 between the northern and southern states as a means to balance representation in the House of Representatives. United States Constitution, Article 1, Section 2, Paragraph 3; United States Census 1820 and 1830 and PWC Personal Property Tax 1820 and 1830.

⁸⁶Inventory of Robert Hamilton. PWC Will Book O:208, microfilm.

⁸⁷Wormeley Carter Promissory Note. Manassas National Battlefield Park, Miscellaneous Henry/Carter Family Papers, Cat.# MANA 1489.

⁸⁸*Prince William Reliquary* Vol. 4, No. 2, see also Clerk’s Loose Papers; PWC Personal Property Tax, 1830.

⁸⁹There was a post office at Groveton until about 1859 with various local citizens serving as postmaster. William Ritter, comp. *Post Offices and Post Masters of Prince William County, Virginia, 1776-1971* (Dale City, Va., 1992), 1-9.

cases as either plaintiff or defendant in his own legal cases. He was defendant in a case involving speculation for town lots in the newly formed town of Brentsville, which he contracted to purchase with Charles Ewell, the husband of his wife's sister Lucy. He entered into the agreement in January of 1823 and in 1826 the case against him for non-payment him was filed on behalf of Ewell.⁹⁰

In another case, Hamilton made a complaint against a relative and neighbor. When Wormeley Carter's sister Elizabeth Carter died, another sister Judith and her husband Isaac Henry acquired 330 acres of land from her estate in 1825.⁹¹ The Henry's struggled financially and put the land up for sale a few years later. Hamilton was listed in the advertisement as the contact person to show the land to prospective buyers, but he chose to purchase the land himself for eight hundred and fifty-seven dollars and rented it back to the Henrys. The land was advertised as being on "the Turnpike Road leading from Centreville to Buckland is adapted to the cultivation of all kinds of Grain...and has a sufficiency of wood for its support."⁹²

Hamilton and Henry were neighbors and friends as well as being related through the Carter family. They exchanged letters discussing a variety of topics including Henry's growing debt problem. In one case Henry sent Hamilton one thousand dollars to pay some of the claims including liens against his property.⁹³ In another letter, Hamilton reported to Henry who was in Philadelphia on business the news of sickness in the neighborhood including that of Henry's wife, Judith, and his sons, Landon and Hugh. Hamilton often informed Henry that the "sheriffs are more urgent in their demands upon us than I ever knew them to be; and very few of us are able to pay our taxes." He goes on to inform his neighbor that he was "compelled to give Fewell a list of every one of your Negroes to satisfy him. He did not take them away but they will have to be forth coming at our December Court (which you know is the 1st Monday in the month) unless you can bring on or send the money to pay them off."⁹⁴

Henry responded that Hamilton's news had made him "the most miserable being that treads the Philad'a Streets, not on the score of money matters, but the thought (in fact the reality) of my family being down and sick and my not being able to lend them a helping hand. I have enclosed you Twenty Dollars which I dragged out of one of our Tenants."⁹⁵ Dr. Henry died in 1829 and relations between the families seem to have become less close as Hamilton sued Isaac Henry's son John in a dispute over the 330

⁹⁰PWC Clerk's Loose Papers, Vol. 1, *Brentsville Trustees vs Hamilton 1825-1826*, 31-32.

⁹¹*Alexandria Gazette*, 7 April 1825.

⁹²*Alexandria Gazette*, 6 September 1831: PWC Deed Book 12:491.

⁹³Letter from Robert Hamilton to Isaac Henry, 30 May 1825. MANA 1479

⁹⁴Letter from Robert Hamilton to Isaac Henry, 16 October 1826. E.F. Corson Papers, Manassas National Battlefield Park.

⁹⁵Letter from Isaac Henry to Robert Hamilton, 25 October 1826.

acres of land in 1834, which they were renting.⁹⁶ The court notes indicate that John Henry denied Hamilton access to the land and the dispute was extended to 1835 when Hamilton sued Henry for assault.⁹⁷

The household of Robert and Ann Carter Hamilton included their eight children. The eldest, Susan Ann died when she was just seventeen in 1832 and her brother Charles Beale died when he was fourteen in 1838.⁹⁸ The remaining children lived to adulthood. In addition, the Hamilton's had seven slaves: Jack, Griffin, Dolly, Becke, Caty, Cornelia, and Betty. Caty was apparently elderly as she was referred to as "our old slave Caty." Only Cornelia was identified as a child; all of the other slaves were adults.⁹⁹

The record does not reveal if the Hamilton's made any changes to the dwelling at Rosefield. The furnishings of the house in 1835 included five feather beds, walnut furniture, a green painted corner cupboard, nineteen chairs and two mirrors. There were a number of books including a two-volume set of *Fox's Book of Martyrs*, a three-volume set of *Wesley's Sermons* and law books. There was a separate kitchen with furniture, pots, ovens and a spinning wheel.

Hamilton died without a will in March of 1835 at the age of 54. An inventory of the estate was done before a sale was held of the contents of the house and other buildings. Hamilton's personal property was valued at just over \$1640.00. Ann Hamilton purchased back many of the household furnishings, tools, and livestock. Once again as at Wormeley Carter's death, a slave was sold to raise money for debts left behind. Cornelia, identified as a girl, was sold for two hundred and twenty-five dollars.¹⁰⁰ The death of a master was a difficult time for slaves as well as family. For the slaves, the fear of being sold away from kin and familiar surroundings was very real.

Ann Hamilton and five children were living at Rosefield with only five slaves – a substantial decrease from the thirteen slaves noted in the census in 1830 when Robert Hamilton was still alive. On the 1840 census Hamilton reported that three individuals were involved in agriculture.¹⁰¹ Sarah, the eldest child, remained living with her mother at Rosefield after her father's death. Her name appeared as the taxpayer of record for personal property tax for the years 1842 through 1845.¹⁰²

⁹⁶Turner. *Prince William County Clerk's Loose Papers*, Vol. VII, 21. (5 March 1833). Hamilton purchased the 330 acres from the Isaac Henry estate in 1831. PWC Deed Book 12:491, microfilm.

⁹⁷Ron Turner. *Commonwealth Cases, 1834 and 1835*: PWC Clerk's Loose Papers, Vol. VIII, 21, microfilm.

⁹⁸Susan and Charles are probably buried at the Pittsylvania Cemetery. See letter from A.L. Henry to Edward [Corson], 12 October 1927. A.L. Henry Papers. Manassas National Battlefield Park.

⁹⁹PWC Will Book O:209-210, microfilm.

¹⁰⁰Estate of Robert Hamilton Sale 27 Oct. 1835. PWC Will Book O:209-210, microfilm.

¹⁰¹U.S. Census, Prince William County, Virginia: 1830 and 1840, microfilm

¹⁰²PWC Personal Property Tax, 1842-1845, microfilm

Sarah Hamilton kept up a lively correspondence with a number of friends and relatives while living at Rosefield. Topics discussed included religion and favorite preachers and a camp meeting that was held near Rosefield. One of the correspondents was Mrs. S.R. Morgan whose husband had been a minister at Sudley Church in 1842. Pastor Morgan had taken a new post in Georgetown, but his wife had returned to Rosefield to visit with the Hamilton's at least once since her departure and Sarah had made a trip to Georgetown as well.¹⁰³

Another correspondent wrote to Sarah regarding her brother's health. He had apparently been very ill and the writer expressed her gratitude that "[God] in mercy restored the son and the brother to sustain the declining years of a widowed mother and give to his sisters that protection which in a cold and unfriendly world they so much need." Mrs. Morgan also wrote asking after for Sarah's brother.¹⁰⁴

Ann Hamilton sold the land that included Rosefield to her husband's aunt, Ann H. Edwards in 1843. Edwards had been very generous with her niece in the past and may have purchased the land to help Hamilton stay at Rosefield.¹⁰⁵ However, the taxes continued to be paid under the estate of Robert Hamilton through 1845. In June of 1843, Hamilton purchased the lot that her sister Judith had inherited from Wormeley Carter. Judith retained 118 of the 148 acres that she had at her death. Just one month later, Hamilton sold the land to John Dogan for a profit.¹⁰⁶

Three of the Hamilton children were minors when their father died. In 1844, the eldest son, Robert W. Hamilton, was assigned as guardian of the three youngest: Richard, Mary and Edward. He and Jesse Ewell each posted a bond of fifty dollars to protect the assets of the heirs.¹⁰⁷ Two years later, guardianship was transferred to William A. Carter and Alfred Ball just before most of the Hamilton family moved to Missouri. At this point, Richard Hamilton was eighteen, Mary was sixteen, and Edward was thirteen years old.¹⁰⁸ Mary Hamilton married her cousin William Carter and the couple remained in Virginia.

¹⁰³Letter from E.M. Balch to Sarah Hamilton, no date; Letter from S.R. Morgan, 20 January 1842; Letter from S.R. Morgan, 10 May 1842. Sarah C. Hamilton Papers, 1842-1883. Virginia Historical Society. There was a preacher named Lyttleton F. Morgan and an assistant named Tillotson A. Morgan at Sudley Church during the years 1840 and 1841.

¹⁰⁴Letter from Juliana Gordon, [n.d.]; Letter from S.R. Morgan, 2 November 1842. Hamilton Papers, VHS.

¹⁰⁵PWC Deed Book 18:2, microfilm.

¹⁰⁶PWC Deed Book 18:75-76, microfilm.

¹⁰⁷*PWC Clerk's Loose Papers, Vol. VIII*, 68; Turner, *PWC Court Minutes: 5 Years at the Brentsville Courthouse*, 1.

¹⁰⁸*PWC Clerk's Loose Papers, Vol. VIII*, 80-81. Carter and Ball held a bond in the amount of eight hundred dollars with the promise that William A. Carter would deliver the estate due the three children when they attained the lawful age of 21.

Ann Hamilton remained at Rosefield until the mid-1840s.¹⁰⁹ In 1845, John Dogan purchased the remaining fifty-four acres that Ann Hamilton still retained of the Rosefield inheritance from Wormeley Carter.¹¹⁰ Ann Hamilton appears to have left Prince William County by 1846 when she received a certificate of transfer from Sudley Methodist Church and moved to Missouri.¹¹¹

John D. Dogan and the Antebellum Period at Rosefield

The Dogan family had been in the area since the late eighteenth century. Henry Dogan owned land in the Groveton area beginning around 1810 when he acquired some of Landon Carter of Pittsylvania's lands from Wormeley Carter.¹¹² Henry and his wife Mary Wheeler Dogan established Peach Grove plantation. Their family included two sons, William Henry and John Drummond Dogan and three daughters: Elizabeth, Harriet, and Jane.¹¹³

The elder son William inherited the Peach Grove property at his father's death in 1823. John Dogan and his sisters were to divide the rest of the land with John inhering the land on Dawkins Creek.¹¹⁴ Both William and John were listed with their mother, Mary Wheeler Dogan, on the personal property tax lists until her death in 1832. In that year John Dogan first paid personal property tax under his own name for one slave and two horses. The Reverend Jesse Weems, a magistrate for the Prince William County Court, married John Dogan and Anna Maria Bates in Fairfax in November of 1830.¹¹⁵ It is not clear whether they remained living at Peach Grove after the elder Mrs. Dogan's death or whether they set up housekeeping at the Dawkins Branch property. They may have remained at Peach Grove as William Dogan remained a bachelor until 1838.

¹⁰⁹Letter from E.M. Balch to Sarah Hamilton addressed to Rosefield. 6 January 1844. Manassas National Battlefield Park.

¹¹⁰PWC Deed Book 19:55-56, microfilm. The land deeds regarding Rosefield are somewhat unclear. While Hamilton sold the property to her aunt in 1843, it remained in Robert Hamilton's name on land tax rolls until 1846 when it appeared in John Dogan's name. The deed of sale between Hamilton and Edwards does not specify the number of acres involved. However, when Dogan acquired the property it was the full 124 acres.

¹¹¹Sudley United Methodist Church archives, vertical file: Class Book, Sudley, 1818-1865. 1846:17.

¹¹²PWC Deed Book 4:404, microfilm.

¹¹³Dogan Family File. RELIC Room, Bull Run Regional Library PWC Library System.

¹¹⁴PWC Will Book M:134-135, microfilm. Contemporary maps show Dawkins Branch running roughly between Ball's Ford Road and Linton Hall Road intersected by Wellington Road.

¹¹⁵Margaret B. Binning, Comp. *Marriage Records of Residents of Prince William County, Virginia, 1731-1930*.

John Dogan was an enterprising citizen of Prince William County and sought ways to increase his income including operating a store at Groveton.¹¹⁶ The county court made a motion certifying his good character and that the location of his store was “fit and convenient to the neighborhood for the retail of Wine, Rum, Brandy and other Spirits.”¹¹⁷ He held a license as a merchant for the years 1838 and 1841 as well in addition to a license for private entertainment for most years from 1835 to 1845 and as an ordinary keeper in 1841. An establishment that was licensed as private entertainment differed from the ordinary keeper in that the ordinary keeper could sell liquor to his lodgers. If he wanted to sell liquor or wine to be taken out of the establishment he had to hold a license as a merchant as well.¹¹⁸

In 1839 John Dogan and James Fewell hired Ann Edwards’ blacksmith, Randolph, for the year for one hundred and thirty dollars. The agreement stated that the men would keep Randolph set up in a shop, “treat him well, and to give him, the usual summer clothing, and discharge him on the 25th of December next, clothed in a good strong winter suit, shoes and stocking hat and blanket.”¹¹⁹ Some years later Andrew Redman had a blacksmith shop at Groveton and remained there through the Civil War.

In 1840 John Dogan’s household was comprised of himself, his wife, and seven slaves. The slaves included only one adult male; two women aged ten to twenty-four, and four children under the age of ten. Dogan identified himself as being involved in commerce but soon moved into farming full time.¹²⁰ He began to add to his property both real and personal. By 1842 he was paying tax on a barouche valued at one hundred dollars and owned one of only two gold watches in his district. Dogan purchased a 118-acre parcel adjoining the Rosefield property from Ann F. Hamilton in 1843.¹²¹ In September of 1845 Dogan acquired the last of the remaining land including the house at Rosefield held by the Hamilton’s and began to reside there. Dogan sold the Dawkins Branch property and had consolidated his land holdings to adjacent properties along the Warrenton Turnpike by 1849. He sold 54.75 acres in 1850 and thereafter owned the 413 acres identified as Rosefield on land tax rolls.¹²²

¹¹⁶The location of Dogan’s store and tavern may have been at the intersection of the Warrenton Turnpike and Groveton Road. A privately owned house stands on the land today and may be built around an earlier structure. See Joseph. Cultural Landscape Inventory: Northwest Quadrant, Manassas National Battlefield Park, 4.88-4.89.

¹¹⁷Turner. PWC Court Minutes, 1833-1838, 144.

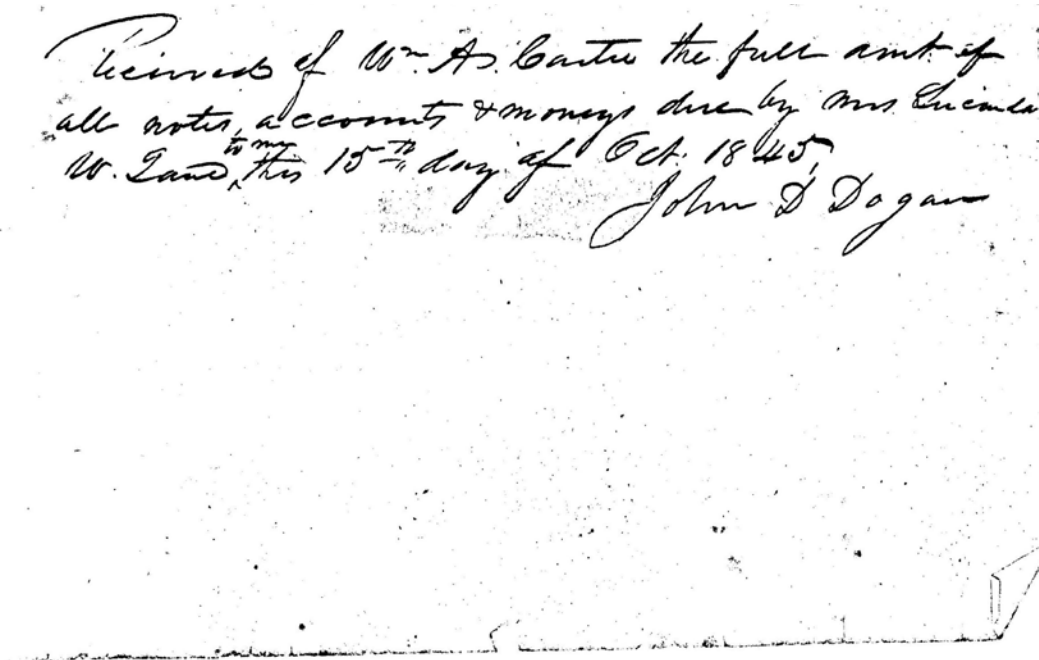
¹¹⁸Turner. Prince William County Business Licenses, 1806-1899; Turner. PWC Court Minutes, 1833-1838, 248, 298.

¹¹⁹Turner. Prince William County, Virginia Clerk’s Loose Papers, Vol. II: Selected Transcripts 1808-1860, Deeds and Slave Records, 176.

¹²⁰U.S. Census, Prince William County, 1840, microfilm.

¹²¹PWC Deed Book 18: 76, microfilm.

¹²²PWC Deed Book 19:55-56, microfilm. The 413 acres of Rosefield acquired by Dogan remained intact from 1851 to 1889. PWC Land Tax 1851-1889, microfilm.



Received of Wm A. Carter the full amt of
all notes, accounts & moneys due by Mrs. Lucinda
W. Land ^{to me} this 15th day of Oct. 1845.
John D. Dogan

Figure 2: Receipt signed by John D. Dogan in October of 1845 acknowledging payment from W.A. Carter.

Nineteenth-Century Agriculture in the Piedmont of Virginia

At the end of the eighteenth century Fairfax County, formed from Prince William County in 1742, had one of the largest slave populations in the United States. In 1810 there were 235 slave owners with 200 or more slaves constituting 4% of the slaveholding population. By 1860 the largest number of slaves owned by any individual did not exceed 60 slaves and they constituted only 1 percent of the slaveholders. 58 percent of the slave owning population owned between one and ten slaves.¹²³ The divisions of large estates by heirs over the decades after 1800 made large numbers of slaves unnecessary to work shrinking acreages. Primogeniture was outlawed in Virginia in 1785; thereafter all descendants of a deceased landowner could receive equal shares of real property.¹²⁴

Economic depressions and a large tax burden made it difficult for small landowners to increase their holdings or acquire additional slave labor. In fact, during the antebellum years, Virginia slave owners began to sell any slaves that they could do without in an effort to reduce their costs and raise capital. Virginia became the source for large numbers of slaves sold to the cotton fields of the Deep South in the domestic slave trade. The Atlantic slave trade was abolished in January of 1808. No slaves were to be imported into the United States after that date. Increased labor was needed in the Deep South to support cotton plantations that were beginning to spread across the area and Virginia increasingly supplied the required labor force.

The decreasing size of farmers labor force meant greater difficulties for slaves trying to live as a family. After Wormeley Carter died, a man and wife were sold to one buyer and their children to a different buyer. The impact on the slaves' quality of life was enormous as they lost the support of their closest relatives.¹²⁵ The death of their owner signaled an uncertain future to slaves until they knew how the heirs would disperse them. It was not uncommon for families to be broken up with the individuals being sent to different counties or even states. Their owners' death could also meant the demise of their own families and they had no recourse.

Some slave owners opted to sell out entirely and move to lands to the west in the hopes of a brighter economic future. Kentucky, Missouri, and Tennessee were among the states to accept immigrants from Virginia. Ann Carter Hamilton moved to Missouri with some of her children in 1845.

The type of crop grown affected the agricultural calendar. As planters began to shift from tobacco to grains and other crops in the late eighteenth century the rhythm of work routines also shifted for the slaves who worked the land. Tobacco's growing calendar began in January and continued through to the following December when the

¹²³Damian Alan Pargas. *The Quarters and the Fields: Slave Families in the Non-Cotton South* (Gainesville, Fla.: University Press of Florida, 2010), 118-119.

¹²⁴C. Ray Keim. "Primogeniture and Entail in Colonial Virginia" *The William and Mary Quarterly*, Third Series, Vol. 25, No. 4 (Oct., 1968), p. 545-586.

¹²⁵Pargas. *The Quarters and the Fields*, 174.

dried leaves were packed and readied for shipment. Grain agriculture differed in that there could be two growing cycles within the year as winter wheat was planted in late summer and harvested the following June. Other crops were planted in the spring and harvested in late fall including corn, wheat, and rye. In the winter, the wheat was threshed and other tasks like repairing fences and tools could be completed.¹²⁶ Crop diversification and smaller farms required slaves to become adept at more than one aspect of labor. The system employed for field labor was time-work or gang labor, which required workers to be at work all day for six days a week rather than a task system most often employed on rice plantations where slaves were given a specific task to complete. Once the days' tasks were completed their time was their own until the next day.

Tobacco production did not completely disappear as a crop in Virginia in the nineteenth century, but it had become a small part of the states' agricultural output. Corn and oats were staple crops and served as food for planters, slaves, and livestock. Wheat was grown almost exclusively for sale.¹²⁷ Other marketable items were meat and dairy products. Most farmers tried to produce a variety of products that would provide them with varied markets and provide protection from vagaries of the market.

Rosefield in the 1860s

John Dogan followed the market trends very closely in his choice of crops to grow on his farm. In 1850 he grew 300 bushels of wheat, 600 bushels of Indian corn and 100 bushels of oats. In addition he grew rye and Irish potatoes for his own use. By 1860 he had stopped growing oats but had added sheep to his livestock holdings and sold 200 pounds of wool. Ten years earlier he had manufactured just seventy pounds of butter, but by 1860 it was 500 pounds probably headed for markets in Alexandria or Washington, D.C.

Once Dogan turned his full time attention to farming he quickly became one of the most successful farmers in his district. He had 350 acres of improved land by 1850 and the farm was valued at \$4,500.00. His livestock was valued at over five hundred dollars and he reaped hundreds of bushels of wheat, Indian corn, and oats at harvest time. Dogan owned thirteen slaves in 1850. Six of these were aged twelve years or older; the rest were children running in age from ten months to eleven years. By 1852, he had acquired twenty slaves.¹²⁸

In the early 1860s the Rosefield yard around the house enclosed at least two outbuildings and an orchard within a combination of wooden and Virginia rail fences. A stand of hardwoods stood on the western boundary of the property along the Groveton-

¹²⁶Ibid., 40-42.

¹²⁷Ibid., 17.

¹²⁸U.S. Census, Prince William County Virginia, 1850; PWC Personal Property Tax, 1852, microfilm.

Sudley Road.¹²⁹ During the war there were chicken-coops, hog-pens and corncribs surrounding the main house. In addition, Dogan stated that he had one slave house and there was a freestanding kitchen when he purchased the house from Ann Hamilton in 1846.¹³⁰ Dogan made some substantial improvements to his property in 1857. He had consistently paid tax on buildings valued at eight hundred dollars since 1851. In 1857 the building value jumped to 1500 dollars. Either he substantially increased the house size, built a new house, or built new barns or other outbuildings.¹³¹

By 1860 Dogan owned 416 acres, which included fields planted in wheat and corn, pastureland, an orchard and beehives. Dogan planted an orchard shortly after acquiring Rosefield. In 1850 he claimed no income from orchard products but the trees were beginning to bear fruit by 1860 when he harvested products worth ten dollars. After the war, this investment would provide him with a far greater income. His property was valued at \$8,100.00. He reported that he had one slave dwelling on the 1860 census and nineteen slaves. Some of the slaves may have been housed in the kitchen or other buildings or even in the Dogan's dwelling. Among the nineteen slaves were two "fugitives from the state," a sixty year old male and another male aged thirteen.¹³²

John and his wife did not have children and his niece, Mary Jane Dogan, appears to have lived with them at least part of the time. Dogan was made guardian of Mary Jane in July of 1854 after the death of her father.¹³³ She was the daughter of John's brother, William, and was the only child from his first marriage. His wife Janet died of complications from childbirth days after Mary Jane was born in 1839. Mary Jane was living with him and his wife in 1860. She owned two slaves including a twenty-three year old female who was also a fugitive at the time of the census. The three missing slaves may represent a family group that made their escape to the North.¹³⁴

Dogan had advertised for the return of a runaway slave named David in the autumn of 1848. He offered one hundred dollars as a reward for his return if found in

¹²⁹Joseph. Northwest Quadrant, 4.79-4.85.

¹³⁰Ibid., 4.86; PWC Deed Book 18:2, microfilm.

¹³¹PWC Land Tax. Microfilm. Comparisons were made of other properties in the same district near Rosefield. William Dogan's building values increased 200 dollars between 1856 and 1857 as did Jesse Ewell's. Alexander Compton's remained steady for those years. None experienced the significant increase that John Dogan's building value did.

¹³²U.S. Census 1850 and 1860, Prince William County, Virginia: Population schedules and agricultural schedules, microfilm.

¹³³PWC, Virginia, Administrators Bond Book 7, 1852-1873, microfilm.

¹³⁴1860 Census. Dogan was wealthy enough to provide a guardian bond with Richard A. Clarke for William H. Clarke in the amount of \$4,000.00 in 1849 and another bond in the same amount for the guardianship of John Clarke with Robert C. Leachman and John Williams. Turner. *PWC Clerk's Loose Papers, Vol. VII*, 88, 90 (6 March 1849 and 7 May 1849). William Clarke appears to have lived with Dogan for some amount of time as he was listed on the 1849 Personal property tax rolls as a "white male under age 16" under Dogan's name.

Pennsylvania; fifty if found in Washington, D.C. or Maryland and only twenty dollars if discovered in Virginia. He was described as “five feet ten or eleven inches in height, of a dark copper colour and has a full suit of hair, stout and well made, and when spoken to he is apt to raise his hat wearing at the same time a very pleasant countenance.” Dogan went on to describe David’s clothing including a new pair of boots.¹³⁵

A year later an auction took place at Groveton of the slaves belonging to the estate of Francis M. Lewis. The region was not without its slave rebellions. Some of the slaves of George Green of Haymarket were accused of murdering their master and burning his house down around him. The coroner reported that he found “the charred spine and pelvis of an adult human body.” One of Green’s slaves testified that he had been a hard master. Green had told the slaves that they had to “stay at home during the Christmas holidays and work. We concluded to get rid of him.” Incidents like these were a grim reminder to both blacks and whites alike of the tenuous conditions they worked and lived under.¹³⁶

Agriculture and Commerce at Groveton and Sudley

In the 1860s the Groveton community was thriving and supported a number of commercial establishments including a blacksmith shop run by Andrew Redman and a tavern. There was a post office at Groveton from 1832 through 1865 and a school on Lucinda Dogan’s property, which provided education for the white boys in the area. John Dogan’s neighbors included brother William and his second wife, Lucinda. They lived at Peach Grove, which William had inherited from his father. William died in 1854, but Lucinda continued to farm the property and lived there with her children.

Southeast of the John Dogan property, Wormeley Carter’s sister Judith Carter Henry lived at Spring Hill. Judith married Dr. Isaac Henry shortly after her father’s death in 1801. After her husband’s death in 1829 Judith eked out a living on land that she had inherited. At the outbreak of the war, she was an elderly woman, living with a daughter and servant. One of her two surviving sons, Hugh F. Henry, a schoolteacher, was away from home at the time of the battle.¹³⁷ Judith Henry wrote her will in 1860. In it she left each of her sons a horse and to her daughter Ellen she left “the land on which I reside together with all the stock, implements and household and kitchen furniture.”¹³⁸

Living to the east of the Henry’s along the turnpike was James Robinson, a free black man, on his farm. Robinson had been born at Pittsylvania around 1799. According to local oral tradition, he was a descendent of one of the Carter family and an African American mother. At the age of twenty-four, Robinson registered with the Prince

¹³⁵*Alexandria Gazette*, 11 September 1848.

¹³⁶*Alexandria Gazette*, 12 November 1849; Turner. *PWC Clerk’s Loose Papers*, Vol. III, 74-76. Haymarket is about seven miles northwest of Rosefield.

¹³⁷Letter from SC to Judith Carter 20 June 1801. Manassas National Battlefield Park; Judith Henry’s will, *PWC Clerk’s Loose Papers*, Vol. VII, 5.

¹³⁸Turner. *PWC Clerk’s Loose Papers*, Vol. VIII, 5.

William County Court as was required of all free blacks. He purchased 170 acres of land from John Lee in 1840 and added a house to the property. Robinson grew grains and also operated a drover's stand where traveling farmers could house their stock overnight while going to market.¹³⁹

The 1850 Census shows that Robinson had eight people living with him. He married a slave woman named Susan Gaskins owned by the same John Lee who had sold Robinson the land. Consequently this meant that any children that Robinson and Gaskins had together were classified as slaves as the status of a black person was determined by the status of the mother. John Lee left Susan Gaskins and her daughter Henrietta to Robinson in his will. He also emancipated another of Robinson's daughters named Jemima.¹⁴⁰ Robinson sought to make provisions for another child. Alfred Ball wrote to John Dogan that Robinson had requested that the two men act as joint masters for his daughter Mima.¹⁴¹

Robinson was remarkable in that although he had received no education or even job training during his indenture he was able to save enough money working as a waiter in a Brentsville tavern. Robinson was not satisfied with just existing on his land; he worked determinedly to add to his land holdings or sold tracts to fund capital improvements.

In addition to the commerce at Groveton, there were also businesses at Sudley Mill. A wheelwright, John Thornberry set up a shop to repair the many wagon wheels challenged by the region's rough roads.¹⁴² The Sudley Springs Hotel was situated north of the mill. The iron rich springs were believed to be beneficial to a variety of ailments and the resort provided a place to rest and recuperate.¹⁴³

Sudley Methodist Church was located near Sudley Mill. In 1822 Landon Carter of Woodlawn, son of John Carter of Sudley deeded the land to trustees, which included his son, Landon Carter, Jr.; his brother, William Fitzhugh Carter; and his uncle by marriage, Robert Hamilton of Rosefield.¹⁴⁴ The church played a large part in the community serving as a center of social life as well as a house of worship. Virginia's dominant religion during the colonial period was the Anglican Church following the state church of the British Crown. After the Revolution the church suffered from a loss of parishioners and new religions spread into the new state. Methodist circuit riders had

¹³⁹"War for Freedom: African American Experiences in the Era of the Civil War." Resource #1: Biography of James Robinson. MNPB: www.nps.gov/mana/forteachers/war-for-freedom.htm. Accessed 11/16/11.

¹⁴⁰"John Lee of Willow Green: Who were his Children?" *Prince William Reliquary*, Vol. 7, No. 4:77-79.

¹⁴¹Letter from Alfred Ball to John Dogan, 5 March 1847. Robinson Papers. Manassas National Battlefield Park.

¹⁴²Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 57.

¹⁴³Ratcliffe. 103.

¹⁴⁴E.R. Conner. Unpublished manuscript "Landon Carter of Woodland" (Manassas Museum, Manassas, Va.), [1]. Landon Carter of Woodland's parents were John Carter of Sudley and Janet Hamilton, aunt of Robert Hamilton.

been coming to Prince William County as early as 1775. Francis Asbury was one of the most famous of the circuit riders and one of the few to remain in the colony after the Revolution began. His diary entries mention visiting with members of the Carter family in Prince William County and Sudley Methodist Episcopal Church was meeting before 1789.¹⁴⁵

Methodist members were divided into classes. The class of 1839 included Alfred Ball as leader, Ann Hamilton and her children Robert and Sarah, Landon and Emily Carter of Pittsylvania, and Elizabeth Dogan, sister of John Dogan as well as members of the Lewis and Chinn families. By the 1850s John Dogan's wife, Ann, and Mary Jane Dogan were in attendance as was John Cross and his children.¹⁴⁶ Reverend Alexander Compton was a lay preacher at the church and lived at nearby Greenville with his family.

The Frank Lewis family lived at Portici, one of the most substantial houses in the neighborhood in the antebellum period. It was a two-story frame house with two massive double chimneys of brick at each end of the structure. It had numerous outbuildings in close proximity to the house. The house had originally been part of the lands inherited from Robert "King" Carter by his grandson, Robert "Councillor" Carter. His daughter, Elizabeth Landon Carter and her husband Spencer Ball were the first to live on the property. By the time of the Civil War, Frank and Fannie Lewis occupied the house and land.¹⁴⁷

Benjamin Chinn purchased Hazel Plain in 1853. The farm was situated on the south side of the turnpike from Rosefield and contained 550 acres and had a two and one-half story frame home built by Bernard Hooe in 1809. Hooe had been a wealthy landowner with eighty slaves to work the 2,000 acres that once comprised Hazel Plain.¹⁴⁸

The property where Stone House stands was originally part of the Pittsylvania plantation. When the property was divided after Wormeley Carter's death that tract went to his youngest son Thomas Otway Carter. Carter sold the land in 1828 when he was twenty-two years old to John Lee.¹⁴⁹ Mary Polly Clarke operated a wagon stand along the turnpike on Lee's property throughout the 1840s. Presumably, one of her children, Thomas Otway Clarke improved the property with a more substantial dwelling around 1848. Henry Matthew purchased the property in 1850 and was engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1856 the assessed value of buildings on his property increased by one thousand dollars, which may indicate the completion of the Stone House at that time or

¹⁴⁵Johnson. *History in a Horseshoe Curve*, 5-7, 11, 19.

¹⁴⁶Sudley United Methodist Church archives. Vertical file: Class Book, 1818-1865, 3-40.

¹⁴⁷Edmund Raus. "The Voices of Portici" (*Civil War*, Vol. XIV: 43-44).

¹⁴⁸Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 29, 59

¹⁴⁹Reeves, ed. *Stone House*, 2.10. Reeves assumes that because Thomas Ottoway Carter was identified as an infant in papers that provided for him being under guardianship after his father's death that he must have been a very young child. He was born in 1806 and was nine years old when his father died. Consequently, when he sold the land in 1828 he was twenty-two years old.

other improvements were made to the tavern operation in order to take advantage of its placement along the turnpike.¹⁵⁰

The antebellum years brought some significant changes to Rosefield and the surrounding community. The Orange and Alexandria Railroad brought the first rail line to the county in 1851 to the post office at Tudor Hall, later known as Manassas Junction. In the next year tracks were extended to Culpeper. Two passenger and freight trains passed through the Manassas area every day except Sunday.¹⁵¹

In March of 1850 the Manassas Gap Railroad was incorporated. The lines would connect Tudor Hall with the Shenandoah Valley thereby increasing the speed with which the valley's agricultural riches could reach the port of Alexandria and great commercial markets in the east. Dogan was one of four commissioners appointed to inspect and approve the purchase of lands for the proposed rail line. The commissioners met on the land of one Mary Pridmore to survey the land "proposed to be taken by the Manassa's Gap Railroad Company, for its purposes." The commissioners came to the conclusion that "twenty dollars will be a just compensation."¹⁵²

The Manassas Gap Railroad Company decided to build its own tracks directly to Alexandria avoiding the double fees that would have to be paid if freight was transferred to the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. The ambitious scheme was never completed as trying to build a line to western Virginia's coalfields at the same time overextended the company. In addition, 1857 and 1858 brought poor wheat crops to the Shenandoah and an accompanying financial panic. The plans for the new lines were eventually abandoned.¹⁵³

In 1840 John Dogan's name appeared in *The Jeffersonian* newspaper of Warrenton, Virginia on a list of members of the Republican Committee of Vigilance.¹⁵⁴ The paper supported Democratic candidate the incumbent President Martin Van Buren who was running against William Henry Harrison, the Whig candidate. As the election of 1860 loomed, the residents of Prince William County were caught up in political debate over the future of the country and the fate of slavery in the south.

¹⁵⁰Ibid., 2.12-2.17. The fact that the unmarried Mary Polly Clarke named one of her sons after Thomas Otway Carter had led to some speculation over the nature of their relationship. There is no evidence to prove one way or another whether he could have been the father of her child. John Lee provided for Clarke and all of her children in his will, indicating that he had an interest in their welfare.

¹⁵¹Crowson. *William Henry Dogan House*, 8. Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 65.

¹⁵²Turner. *PWC Clerk's Loose Papers*, Vol. VII, 99-100. (31 March 1851).

¹⁵³Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 66-67.

¹⁵⁴*Prince William Reliquary*, Vol. 5, No. 3:69

Chapter III: The Civil War Comes to Rosefield

The War Begins

The Civil War officially began on April 12, 1861 with the Confederate attack on the federal garrison at Fort Sumter, South Carolina, but the residents of Rosefield and the surrounding region were well aware months earlier that their state and their country faced a major crisis. South Carolina seceded from the Union in December of 1860 and slowly the southern states began to follow its lead. All eyes, both North and South, were focused on whether Virginia would remain with the Union or join the Confederate States of America. Virginia was on the border between the two regions and whatever its eventual decision would have a significant impact on what was to follow.

A secession convention opened in Richmond on February 13, 1861. Virginia's citizens were very conflicted over the decision and it was by no means a foregone conclusion that Virginia would join the Confederacy. Finally on April 17, 1861, Virginia's government voted to secede from the United States of America backed up by a state referendum on May 23 when the citizens of Virginia supported the decision.¹⁵⁵

By July of 1861 the capital of the Confederacy had moved from Montgomery, Alabama to Richmond, which all but guaranteed that those who lived between Washington, D.C. and Richmond would be in the midst of the warfare. People on both sides believed that the war would be brief and as the first major battle of the war loomed both the Union and the Confederacy believed that they would be the victors.

Politics in Groveton

The area around Groveton appears to have been heavily in favor of secession. John Dogan was an ardent supporter of secession and had feelings of enmity for those who did not. Dogan reportedly told his neighbor John Cross that he would be sent beyond the Union lines and not be allowed to return. His daughter testified that her father had been "despised and abused by the neighbors" both male and female and that they had told him "thank God you have to leave this country when the war is over you old Yankee."¹⁵⁶

Cross, in contrast to Dogan, was a confirmed Union man. He had never favored the idea of secession and felt "that the government that we had was good enough for me."

¹⁵⁵David Detzer. *Donnybrook: The Battle of Bull Run, 1861* (New York: Harcourt, Inc., 2004), 2-4.

¹⁵⁶Southern Claims Commission. Accepted Claims. John Cross Claim. Microfilm.

He did not go to the polls to vote on the secession ordinance as he feared violence if he had voted against it. Another resident of the area, Thomas Gaskins, related that a man who had voted against secession at Haymarket was at the mercy of a crowd that intended to “black him and ride him on a rail, but Mr. Cross and a few other men interfered when they had commenced to black him and stopped it.”¹⁵⁷ In the highly charged atmosphere before the war, it was a challenge to defy the move toward secession. John Cross learned to keep his opinions to himself although it must have been well known in the neighborhood that he was able to go to Washington, D.C. on passes given to him by Union officers.

The First Battle of Manassas

The residents of the area had some indication that something was going to happen as early as May when troops began to arrive at Manassas Junction. The strategic importance of the railroad and Prince William County’s location between the two capitals caused the area to be a focus for both sides in the conflict. Troops caused problems for civilians as they occupied the area and made their way to the battlefields. Many Union troops were encamped in Fairfax County both as protection for Washington, D.C. and to prepare to invade further south. A resident of the county complained in a newspaper article about the thievery and destruction he had experienced at the hands of “Maine, Massachusetts and New York men, and when I say the Fire Zouaves from New York city were the best of them, I don’t mean that they would not and did not steal, but that they were not such barefaced thieves as the others.” He reported that the passing troops took “all of my hogs; all of my fowls; took everything like harness, saddles and bridles, carriage, guns...”¹⁵⁸ Individual citizens had little recourse against theft of their personal property when faced with a group of soldiers.

Manassas was still a nascent village when the war began. It had sprung into existence in the early 1850s as a result of the completion of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, which was then linked to a new railroad that went to the Shenandoah Valley passing through the Blue Ridge at Manassas Gap. Over the next ten years a few houses were built and the post office was referred to as Tudor Hall, after a nearby plantation. In addition there was a hotel and a rough building serving as a depot. Manassas was not officially named until 1873, until that time it was generally referred to as “the Junction.” It was considered an important asset for the Confederacy linking the rest of Northern Virginia with the rich agricultural lands of the Shenandoah Valley to the west.¹⁵⁹ The line also provided the troops in the valley a relatively quick passage to join the troops already in position at Manassas.

Union forces numbering 35,000 left Washington, D.C. on July 16, 1861 under General Irvin McDowell with the intention of severing the Confederate rail line and

¹⁵⁷Ibid.

¹⁵⁸*Richmond Enquirer*, August 13, 1861 (Vol. LVIII, No. 31), 1.

¹⁵⁹Ratcliffe. *This was Prince William*, 78-79.

eventually going on to capture Richmond. McDowell's troops were largely untrained 90-day volunteers, but the 10,000 Confederate troops they met under General Joseph E. Johnston and the 22,000 troops under General P.G.T. Beauregard upon reaching Manassas were equally lacking in battle experience. On July 18, forces under Union general Daniel Tyler and Confederate general James Longstreet clashed at Blackburn's Ford. Longstreet stopped Tyler's advance but it gave both sides valuable information about the troops they were facing and their locations.

The early advantage that General McDowell had in troop numbers when he left Washington, D.C. began to slip away over the ensuing days. General Johnston's troops were called from the Shenandoah Valley and began arriving on July 19 and 20 by train. More arrived on the scene the next day, coming to the aid of Beauregard's troops, continuing to arrive even as the battle had already begun.

July 21 fell on a Sunday and that morning members of the Sudley Church were making their way towards services. One resident remembered that the wheat looked better than usual and the year's crop promised to be a good one.¹⁶⁰ At the same time McDowell's forces made their way towards the Sudley ford. There were suspicions in the area that a Union sympathizer had directed the troops to the ford, which offered a way to get wagons and artillery across Bull Run.¹⁶¹

A diversionary engagement occurred in the area at Stone Bridge with Tyler's artillery firing the first shots in an effort to deflect attention from McDowell's turning movements. Colonel Nathan Evans and his Confederate troops stood at the Stone Bridge on the opposite side of Bull Run ready to answer a Union attack until Evans received a signal message warning that McDowell's troops were in the vicinity of Sudley ford and were headed south behind Evans. Leaving a small number behind to defend the bridge, Evans turned the rest of his men towards Matthews Hill to confront the Union troops. Evans objective was to hold the Union's attention until additional forces could arrive at the battlefield.

Confederate forces eventually retreated from this encounter around noon, but Wade Hampton's troops were at Henry Hill to reinforce them and help cover their retreat. Jackson's troops also began to arrive and go into position on the eastern slope of Henry Hill. It was at this point that General Barnard Bee sought to encourage his men to rally by pointing out Jackson's presence and calling, "There stands Jackson like a stone wall." Troops were situated on or crossing John Dogan's Rosefield all day. The property at the time of the battle included wheat fields to the west, a pasture and woods to the northwest, two outbuildings directly north of the house and to the east and northeast cornfields, two storage sheds, and haystacks directly east of Rosefield. There was also an orchard to the west of the house. By mid-morning, it was covered with Union forces of David Hunter's Second Division including the Second New Hampshire, the 71st New York and the

¹⁶⁰Elizabeth Harrover Johnson, E.R. Conner, and Mary Harrover Ferguson. *History in a Horseshoe Curve: The Story of Sudley Methodist Church and its Community*. (Princeton, N.J.: Pennyswift Press, 1982), 69, 73.

¹⁶¹*Ibid.*, 70-71. There were suspicions that the informant was John Cross who later owned Rosefield.

Second Rhode Island of Ambrose Burnside's brigade and Confederate forces of the Army of the Potomac under Captain Campbell, Colonel Sloan, and Major Wheat to the east. The Second New Hampshire advanced toward the Dogan house on the west side of Sudley Road. Here they entered "open farm land clear to the edge of the opposite plateau, across the Warrenton road and the valley of Young's Branch. Near the Dogan house were stacks of hay or straw, behind which a few rebel sharpshooters had taken cover, but they did not stop long."¹⁶² Wheat's Louisiana Tigers and the 2nd New Hampshire engaged at Rosefield early in the day with many fatalities and Major Wheat was wounded.¹⁶³

As Andrew Porter's brigade moved into position on Matthews Hill that morning, he found the Rebel forces were arranged in a long line from his right at Dogan's house to his extreme left.¹⁶⁴

The 14th Brooklyn forded Bull Run and moved along the unfinished railroad bed. The troops emerged into a field with the Warrenton Turnpike in front of them and Charles Griffin's Battery D, 5th U.S. Artillery near the Dogan house.¹⁶⁵ Captain Rickett's six-gun battery, Company I, 1st U.S. Artillery, was placed in position to the extreme right near the Dogan's house to engage John D. Imboden's Staunton Artillery on Henry Hill.¹⁶⁶

From mid-day until about 2 p.m. Union forces dominated the Rosefield property. Andrew Porter led three regiments of volunteers: the 8th New York, the 14th Brooklyn and 27th New York. They started from the western side of Sudley Road near the Dogan house and then turned east towards the Stone House. They came under heavy fire from rebel cannon, the 7th Georgia and Hampton's Legion from South Carolina.¹⁶⁷

The action then became concentrated on Henry Hill. During the final phase of the battle for Henry Hill, General Bee was mortally wounded and Colonel Bartow died near the Henry House. Fierce fighting ensued around the home of Judith Henry. McDowell ordered troops that had been in place on the ridge on Dogan's property towards Henry Hill. In the battle, Judith Henry became the only civilian fatality of the battle. The daughter of Landon Carter of Pittsylvania she had lived at Spring Hill for many years.¹⁶⁸

By 4 p.m. the Confederates had control of the area, but McDowell attempted one last maneuver by advancing his last fresh brigade under Oliver O. Howard toward the Chinn property in the hopes of flanking the Confederates in position on Henry Hill.

¹⁶²Martin A. Haynes. *A History of the Second Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry, in the War of the Rebellion* (Lakeport, New Hampshire, 1896), 26.

¹⁶³Gary Schreckengost. *The First Louisiana Special Battalion: Wheat's Tigers in the Civil War* (Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland, 2008).

¹⁶⁴*The War of the Rebellion, Official Records Series I, Vol. II:384.*

¹⁶⁵C.V. Tevis. "Colonel Fowler's Own Story," *History of the Fighting Fourteenth* (1911. Baltimore, Md.: Butternut and Blue, 1994), 228.

¹⁶⁶Rickett's testimony before committee – Serial 1153, p. 242-243

¹⁶⁷Detzer. *Donnybrook*, 318.

¹⁶⁸Judith's husband Isaac Henry had been a surgeon's mate on the US Frigate Constellation.

Federals gave up the fight at Henry Hill, but were stretched from Buck and Matthews Hills with troops to the left near Pittsylvania “across the Sudley Road in the rear of Dogan’s and reaching toward the Chinn House.”¹⁶⁹ Monroe’s section rejoined Reynolds’ Rhode Island battery near Dogan’s, unlimbered two James rifles and commenced firing.¹⁷⁰ Union troops began to withdraw towards Centreville via Sudley Springs with Confederate forces led by J.E.B. Stuart’s 1st Virginia Cavalry in pursuit. Colonel William Smith’s battalion of the 49th Virginia followed the Federals as far as the Dogan house and found the porch, yard, and stable “full of enemy wounded.”¹⁷¹ Colonel Strange’s 19th Virginia joined in the pursuit and passed Rosefield as it followed the retreating column of Federal troops.

Col. Jubal Early found large numbers of Yankees north of the turnpike in the fields behind the Dogan house. His Sixth Brigade was joined by the 19th Virginia and Colonel Cocke along with Lt. Beckham’s battery passed to the west of Rosefield until it reached a site north of the Stone Bridge where they camped for the night.¹⁷² Arnold Elzey’s brigade drove Howard’s brigade from Chinn Ridge and pursued them across the turnpike and past the John Dogan house. The Federals had still held a line extending from Pittsylvania past Matthews Hill and to the rear of Dogan’s to a point near the Chinn House. Kershaw’s South Carolinians and the 28th Virginia supported Elzey’s brigade. The Confederates forced the Union troops from the ridge between the Chinn and Dogan houses. As they crossed Young’s Branch and the turnpike they fled through John Dogan’s fields to the east of the house.¹⁷³

At the end of the day, Confederate President Jefferson Davis arrived at the battlefield to survey the scene. He sent a telegraph message to Richmond stating, “Night has closed upon a hard fought field – our forces have won a glorious victory...The Ground was strewn for miles with those Killed & the farm houses and Grounds around were filled with his wounded.”¹⁷⁴ Davis stopped at Portici where he was greeted by cheering officers and soldiers alike.¹⁷⁵ The first major conflict of the war had ended in a victory for the Confederacy, but many still believed – or at least hoped - that the war was nearly over.

Major Eugene Blackford of the 5th Alabama Volunteer Infantry relayed the scene near the end of the battle in a letter he wrote to his father the following day. Blackford

¹⁶⁹*Battles and Leaders, Vol. 1, 213-215; Official Records, Series 1, Vol. 11, 495.*

¹⁷⁰Personal Narratives, No. 2. The Rhode Island Artillery at the First Battle of Bull Run.

¹⁷¹Smith. “Reminiscences of the First Battle of Manassas,” *Southern Historical Society Papers*, Vol. X, 441.

¹⁷²*Official Record Series 1, Vol. II: 557; Early war memoirs, 24-26.*

¹⁷³*Official Records, Series I, Vol. II:496. T.B. Warder and Jas. M. Catlett. Battle of Young’s Branch, or Manassas Plain, Fought July 21, 1861 (1862; repr., Manassas, Va.: Prince William County Historical Commission, 1991), 54.*

¹⁷⁴Jefferson Davis. *The Papers of Jefferson Davis, Vol. 7, 1861* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1971), 259.

¹⁷⁵Raus. “The Voices of Portici,” 47.

informed his father that they arrived too late to take a great part, but “came on the field about five o’clock, too late as I said to do much service, but early enough to smell a little gunpowder and receive a little of the enemy’s fire...T’was truly awful, an immense cloud of smoke and dust hung over the whole country, and the flashing of the artillery was incessant tho none of the balls struck my company. One bomb burst a little above me, and killed and wounded several.”¹⁷⁶

Wounded Confederate troops were taken to Pittsylvania and other structure in the vicinity with any room to spare. Union troops in need of medical attention were taken to Sudley Methodist Church among other places. A Union surgeon reported, “at Sudley Church we had a plentiful supply of water, there being a good spring close by...by that time some of the inhabitants of the surrounding country, recognizing our wants, began bringing soup, chickens, eggs, milk, butter, etc. so that considering the circumstances, the wounded fared quite well.”¹⁷⁷ In spite of this optimistic assessment of the conditions at Sudley Church, the numbers of killed and wounded during the Battle of First Manassas were shockingly large and overwhelmed every structure in the area that could be used for tending to injured troops of both sides.

The number of troops that crossed and occupied the Dogan property must have been devastating to structures, crops and fencerows. A newspaper account of the battle reported that many soldiers were killed in the Dogan yard and that “a bullet hole in a chamber door remains a memento of the battle. His family escaped just as the battle joined.”¹⁷⁸ Some inhabitants of the battlefield area remained at their homes during the fighting. Andrew Redmond, a blacksmith with a shop at Groveton, reported that he had been present at his shop while the battle was fought.¹⁷⁹ Lucinda Dogan, the sister-in-law of John Dogan of Rosefield also remained at her home during the war. It is likely that John Dogan and his wife did not have to go far to escape the turmoil. Others left their homes to stay with friends or family nearby but out of the range of danger. The Carters of Pittsylvania left their home for the duration of the war, living with relatives at nearby Pageland toward Gainesville. The Chinns of Hazel Plain and the Lewises of Portici left their homes before the battles began as well.

Frank Lewis joined the Confederate cause and his wife went to live at nearby Snow Hill with her father. Gen. Joseph E. Johnston chose Portici as his field headquarters as it provided a commanding view of the region. After the battle of First Manassas Confederate surgeons used the house as they attempted to save the lives of wounded troops. Southern forces remained at Portici throughout the winter of 1861-1862

¹⁷⁶Letter from Eugene Blackford reprinted in Annette Tapert, ed. *The Brothers’ War: Civil War Letters to Their Loved Ones from the Blue and Gray* (New York: Vintage Books, 1989), 8.

¹⁷⁷*Supplement to the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Part I. Reports, Vol. I* (Wilmington, North Carolina: Broadfoot Publishing Co., 1994), 169.

¹⁷⁸*Richmond Daily Enquirer*, 31 July 1861.

¹⁷⁹Lucinda Dogan, Southern Claims Commission. Deposition of Andrew Redmond.

and cut down the surrounding trees to build shelters. Soon after they departed the area in March 1862, Union soldiers moved onto the plantation grounds.¹⁸⁰

A reporter from the *Richmond Daily Enquirer* visited the battlefield just ten days after the battle and noted that the dead of both sides had been “decently buried...enclosures were built around the graves, and branches of evergreens cover the spot. Sometimes boards marked the head and foot on which were carved or painted the name and fellowship of the deceased. Sometimes boards nailed to a neighboring tree told that the ground adjacent contained the fallen of a certain regiment or company.”¹⁸¹

Colonel James Cameron’s burial at Rosefield

Colonel James Cameron of the 79th New York Highlanders was killed at First Manassas and buried on John Dogan’s land. Cameron was the brother of Simon Cameron of Pennsylvania who served as Secretary of War at the beginning of Lincoln’s administration. According to Hugh Henry the body of Colonel Cameron “was carried there from the field near the Henry house, when he fell at the head of the 79 New York Highlanders in the Brigade led by Gen. W.T. Sherman in support of Ricketts’ and Griffin’s batteries. He was buried on the Rosefield farm by the family who lived there, but was taken up and carried North by his friends after the war.”¹⁸²

Cameron’s compatriots attempted to recover his body immediately after the battle was over. They reportedly did not receive much assistance from the Confederates. A news report stated, “Arnold, Harris and McGraw...the former was sent by the rebels to Richmond, and the latter to Manassas Junction. They did not accomplish the object of their mission. Mr. Birch who took them to Bull Run...reports that all the dead are not yet buried.”¹⁸³

¹⁸⁰Raus. *The Voices of Portici*, 44, 47-48.

¹⁸¹*Richmond Daily Enquirer*, 31 July 1861.

¹⁸²Letter from H[ugh] F. Henry, Sr. to Ada, April [1890]. Henry Family Papers, Manassas National Battlefield Park.

¹⁸³“The Rebellion. Our Special Washington Dispatches,” *New York Herald*, 29 July 1861.

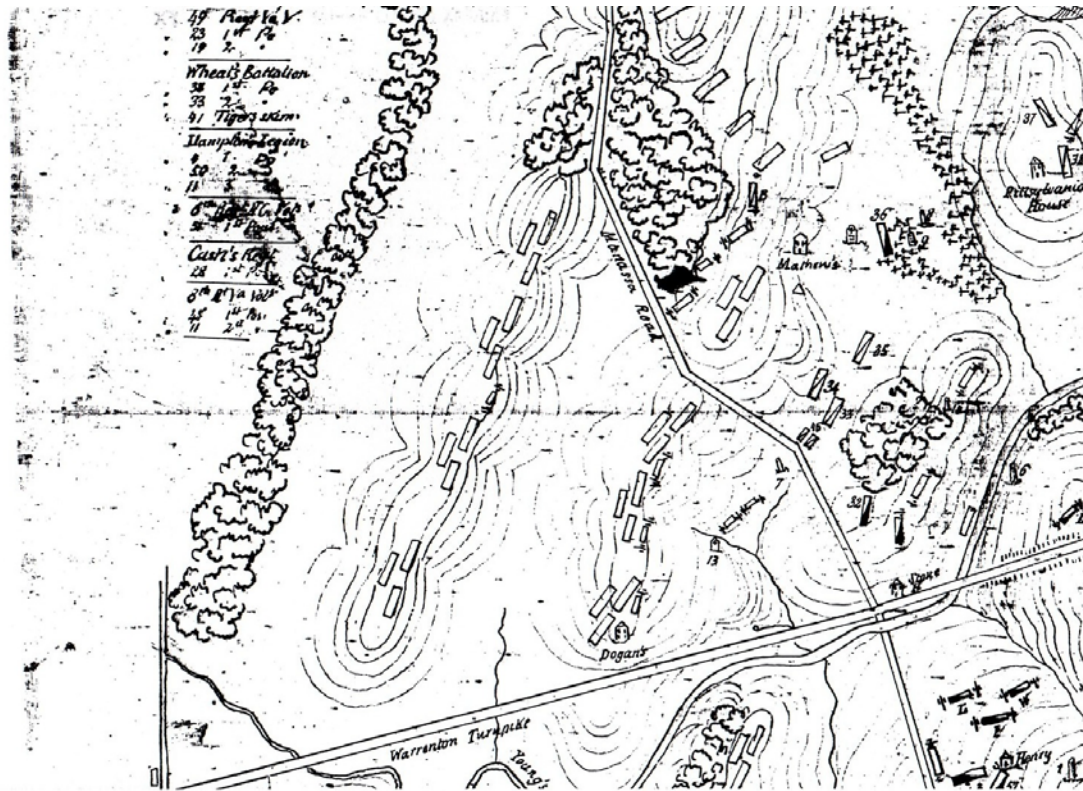


Figure 3: Detail of the Warder and Catlett map of First Manassas showing the location of Col. Cameron's grave, designated as the number 13, northeast of Rosefield along Young's Branch. The site of the house is located along the Warrenton Turnpike where "Dogan" appears on the map.

Cameron's remains were recovered in March of 1862. Major Elliott, a paymaster in the United States Cavalry and John Kane of the War Department went in search of the grave. Kane had been Cameron's orderly at the time of the battle and he identified the remains. The site was found from "information derived from a negro, who remembered that a miniature was taken from one of the bodies thrown into a particular pit with five others...the body was recognized by the under clothing, which had been purchased for the Colonel by Mr. Kane the day before the battle, and also by the name of Colonel Cameron upon a truss he wore."¹⁸⁴ Cameron's body was reinterred and taken for burial in Pennsylvania.

¹⁸⁴"Our Army at Manassas," *The New York Herald*, 16 March 1862.

A Pause Between Battles

The residents around Manassas had only a short break from having troops of one side or the other encamped nearby. Gen. Johnston's Confederate forces wintered in Centreville and Manassas with some regiments posted near Occoquan and Dumfries to support the Confederate batteries on the Potomac. The continued presence of forces in the area added to the discomfort of the residents as soldiers foraged for food and firewood. A temporary military railroad was built between Centreville and Manassas Junction during the winter of 1861 to facilitate the movement of men and supplies. Slaves probably supplied much of the labor. Stonewall Jackson had confiscated the rails from the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad line.

The Confederates left the area in March of 1862, and the Union troops arrived shortly afterwards. The war continued to impact all aspects of life in the region. It even interrupted the regular court schedule. March 3, 1862 was the last day of court in Prince William County until the end of the war.

Rosefield during the Second Battle of Manassas

On August 27, 1862, Jackson and his men burned captured Federal supplies at Manassas Junction, which had become Gen. John Pope's supply station and then moved to a position near Groveton. Lee and Longstreet moved to join Jackson in the hope of drawing Pope into battle. In response Pope's Union army converged on the area from the Rappahannock River and the armies prepared for another confrontation.

August 28:

Early in the morning of August 28 the Confederate brigades of Archer, Branch and Pender under A.P. Hill were situated on the northern portion of the Dogan property and remained there throughout the day.

McDowell's First Division under Rufus King received orders from Pope late in the day directing them to Centreville. Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch's brigade led King's column as it marched eastward along the Warrenton Turnpike toward Groveton and found it, "a typically forgettable place where the Groveton-Sudley Road and Lewis Lane

intersected the Warrenton Turnpike. This hamlet...was really nothing more than a simple country crossroads surrounded by a half-dozen frame houses.¹⁸⁵

About 6 p.m. Jackson's troops attacked King's division along the turnpike near Lucinda Dogan's property, which resulted in an intense firefight on John Brawner's neighboring farm until dark.

August 29:

Longstreet bivouacked at Thoroughfare Gap after driving away Rickett's division on the evening of August 28 and arrived on the field late in the morning via Haymarket and Gainesville. Meanwhile Sigel's Union troops under division commanders Schenck and Schurz took position on the Dogan property from 3 a.m. to about 10 a.m. Stahel moved his regiment from the Chinn property into position behind John Dogan's house. He then received orders to advance toward the Warrenton Turnpike.¹⁸⁶

Pope arrived on the battlefield about 1 p.m. and established his headquarters on Buck Hill just east of the Dogan farm and found that "the situation that surrounded him pleased him immensely." Throughout the day he continued attacking Jackson's position not knowing that Lee and Longstreet were near. Jackson's forces were deployed along the unfinished railroad while Union troops repeatedly attempted to breach their position, the Confederate line held.

Meanwhile Pope had directed Fitz John Porter and McDowell to march from Manassas Junction towards Gainesville and attack Jackson's flank and rear. On reaching Dawkins Branch, the Union column met resistance from Longstreet's troops. Unable to get through, McDowell countermarched his troops to rejoin Pope, leaving Porter in an isolated position confronting Longstreet's superior numbers. Longstreet did not join the battle against Pope that day because Porter's corps threatened his right flank. This contributed to Pope's belief that Longstreet was still a day's march away.

Union troops under Joseph Hooker, including the brigades of Nelson Taylor and Cuvier Grover, were stationed on the Rosefield property. Taylor's brigade was held in reserve and waited on the ridge to the east of Rosefield.¹⁸⁷ Robert Milroy's brigade attacked Jackson's center from the Dogan farm and shortly after they were repulsed, Grover's brigade launched a fierce bayonet assault that briefly penetrated Jackson's line before they too were thrown back. Robert Schenck's division of Sigel's corps rested between the Stone House and John Dogan's behind the ridge.¹⁸⁸

From a position near Groveton Lt. Samuel Benjamin of Battery E, 2nd U.S. Artillery, exchanged fire with Confederate batteries on the Brawner farm but after two of

¹⁸⁵John Hennessy. *Return to Bull Run: The Campaign and Battle of Second Manassas* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1993), 169.

¹⁸⁶John Hennessy. "Historical Report on the Troop Movements for the Second Battle of Manassas, August 28 through August 30, 1862." Northeast Team, Denver Service Center, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1985, 71.

¹⁸⁷*Ibid.*, 117.

¹⁸⁸*Ibid.*, 195.

his guns were disabled he moved his two remaining guns to Dogan's hill and reopened fire¹⁸⁹

Robert Sneden, a topographical engineer with the 40th New York Volunteers, recorded his experiences that day as the battle raged: "About 3 p.m., I was crossing a rough stubble field which bordered on the Sudley Springs road on the right of our battle line when our troops ...overtook me and passed rapidly on the double quick into a thin strip of woods about the center of the enemy's line. These were of King's division...Hooker's command was just beyond the [Lucinda] Dogan house, while several of our batteries were taking position along a rocky ridge facing the enemy."¹⁹⁰

At 5 p.m. Colonel Daniel Leasure was ordered to move his brigade from a position near the Dogan house to support General Phil Kearny in his attack on the unfinished railroad. Kearny's success in driving back Jackson's left flank inspired Pope to order an advance westward along the turnpike against what he thought was Jackson's right flank. At the same time Longstreet ordered Generals Hood, Evans and Wilcox to make a reconnaissance in force eastward along the turnpike. Shortly after 6 p.m. the opposing forces collided at Groveton.

Gen. Marsena Patrick's Third Brigade of King's division, McDowell's corps, arrived about 7 p.m. and was ordered to proceed immediately along with Reynold's New York Battery toward the Dogan house. They crossed a dry streambed and entered a cornfield when Patrick realized Confederate troops were nearby. The general identified himself as being part of King's division and was commanded to surrender by the enemy. Patrick refused and they were met with fire, which hit several of his staff. Patrick's troops moved quickly to reach the orchard atop the hill and posted batteries there to secure the position for the Union. Patrick established a picket line in front of the ridge on Dogan's property and stayed at John Dogan's house that night.¹⁹¹

Schenck's men bivouacked behind the Dogan house and Monroe's artillerymen spent the night near Patrick's brigade.¹⁹² Confederate forces occupied the western portions of the Rosefield property through the night and fell back early the following morning, convincing Pope that Jackson was retreating.

August 30:

General Porter's corps, ordered by Pope to march to the battlefield in the predawn hours, relieved Patrick from his station at Rosefield. General McDowell then directed Patrick to take a post on the right of Sigel. A letter from one of Porter's staff recorded that Porter "then went up to the white house on the hill [Dogan's] and relieved Gen. Patrick." Gerrish's 1st New Hampshire Light Artillery was positioned near Patrick's

¹⁸⁹Ibid., 213.

¹⁹⁰Robert Knox Sneden. *Eye of the Storm: A Civil War Odyssey*. Charles F. Bryan, Jr. and Nelson D. Lankford, eds. (New York: The Free Press, 2000), 123.

¹⁹¹Hennessey. *Return to Bull Run*, 300; Hennessey. "Historical Report on Troop Movements," 239.

¹⁹²Hennessey. "Historical Troop Movements," 234, 240.

brigade and Monroe's Rhode Island Battery was behind the Dogan house in "a fine position, that commanded an extensive plain of bottomland, heavy timber skirting the further limit to the west of us."¹⁹³

The morning was uneventful and about noon Pope, still mistakenly believing that the Confederates were retreating, ordered his army to pursue them. However, Jackson's troops had gone nowhere. Porter's corps, along with a portion of McDowell's corps, engaged Starke's division at the Deep Cut. The Federals could not break the Confederate line and suffered great losses before being repulsed.

In the mid-afternoon, Stahel's brigade of Schenck's division moved three of his regiments onto the crest of the hill near the Dogan house. Also in position on the hill were the 45th New York, the 8th New York and the 27th Pennsylvania. They supported Porter's attack and covered the subsequent retreat.¹⁹⁴ Two brigades of John Reynolds' Pennsylvania Reserves also shifted north of the turnpike from a position on the Chinn farm as Union forces withdrew toward Rosefield. Longstreet counter-attacked and heavy fighting took place south of the turnpike on the Chinn property and in front of Henry Hill. Union infantry and artillery positioned at Rosefield were also engaged.

That afternoon Private Robert Sneden headed in the direction of Portici where the 40th New York was preparing to move toward Centreville. He later wrote that the house was a "pretty good two story farm house with verandah. It stood on a hill among barns and other outhouses. One old woman and three young women were here, not a man or Negro on the premises." An officer had found a musket in the house and shot all of the family's chickens and two young pigs. Sneden went into the house and found a pistol, which he confiscated as "contraband of war, so I had a right to sequester it. The women were furious, but I only laughed at them."¹⁹⁵ At 5 p.m. Sneden watched the Rebels advance on Bald Hill and Henry House Hill. Soon after dark the whole Union army began to slowly retreat toward Centreville in the rain, surrendering another victory to the Southern army.

The women of Sudley Church assisted with nursing at various makeshift hospitals in the area. John Dogan and his wife were members and she may have taken part in some of these duties. Once again the area around the church served to treat the wounded, but this time it served as a Confederate hospital.¹⁹⁶ The Stone House on the Warrenton Turnpike was filled with Union wounded, as were James Robinson's home near Henry Hill and the Van Pelt house near the Stone Bridge.

¹⁹³Ibid., 267, 276.

¹⁹⁴Ibid., 328, 365.

¹⁹⁵Sneden. *Eye of the Storm*, 125-127. Sneden identifies the house as "the Ball house." The Ball family had lived at Portici until the 1850s.

¹⁹⁶Horace H. Cunningham. *Field Medical Services at the Battles of Manassas* (Athens, Ga.: University of George Press, 1968), 85.

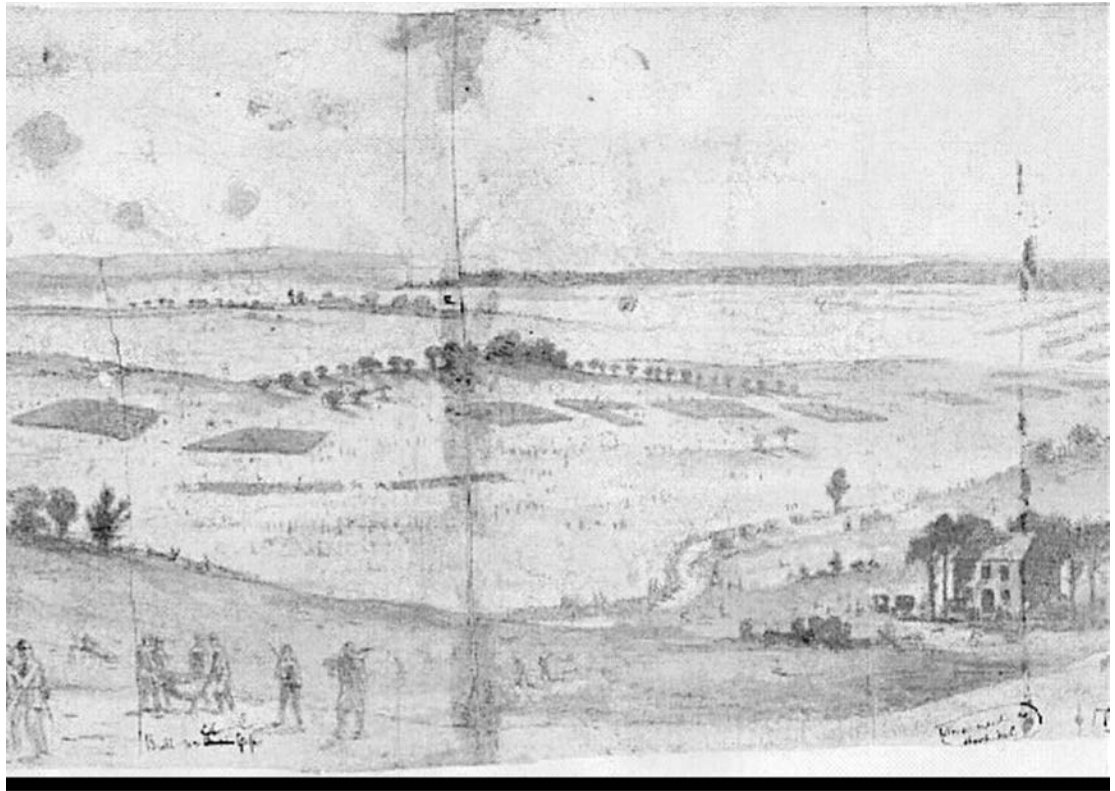


Figure 4: View towards Groveton drawn during the Battle of Second Manassas. Rosefield is situated in the trees at the center of the drawing. The Stone House is in the lower right hand corner.

In the Wake of the Battles

Trouble did not end when the battle was over as troops were still in the area and fear of thefts and arson remained. Anne Frobel, a young woman who lived in Alexandria, wrote of the news she received of the conditions in the area of the Manassas battlefields, "All who came down represent Prince William as a perfectly desolated waste, without food in it for man or beast, and the few houses that are left standing as without occupants...how often have I traveled through it on hors-back [sic] with my two dear brothers, and so many nice beautiful places, and so many rich people, and so much genuine, kind hospitality dispenced [sic] there."¹⁹⁷ The tenant on the Douglass farm, John Brawner returned home after the battle to find that the house had been shot up in the battle and all of his belongings destroyed.¹⁹⁸

Citizens in the area around Rosefield were not only exposed to the consequence of war during the battles themselves as armies from both sides were camped in the area throughout the war. John Cross who would later purchase Rosefield was living off the Groveton Road between Sudley and the turnpike in the 1860s. A self-proclaimed "Union man" he had many opportunities to remind the Union armies that he had signed a loyalty oath to the United States in 1862. (INSERT image of John Cross' loyalty oath) After First Manassas, Cross was taken by the Black Horse Cavalry to see General Johnston who questioned Cross as to whether he had shown Union troops where to ford Bull Run. Cross was able to demonstrate that he had been at home that day and was released. Company H of the 4th Virginia Cavalry Regiment, known as the Black Horse Cavalry, organized in Fauquier County with men from the surrounding area. The group served as bodyguard, scouts, and escorts for Generals Joseph E. Johnston and Stonewall Jackson.

In the months after the Battle of First Manassas a wagon and some hay was taken, but it was after the second battle in August of 1862 that Cross experienced the greatest loss of property. General King's men who were camped at Centreville took five horses. Cross followed his property to the Union encampment to plead for its return, but General King told him that he was required to "seize every serviceable horse he could find." Cross also had cattle taken, corn by parties in wagons and on horseback and about five large stacks of hay. All of this was in spite of the fact that Cross was known to the Union army and was supposed to be protected from loss of property. Cross concealed his horses when Confederate forces were in the area, knowing he would have no recourse if they took his property. General King did return one of Cross' horses and gave him another that had no value to the army but that could be put to farm use.

¹⁹⁷Anne Frobel. *The Civil War Diary of Anne S. Frobel of Wilton Hill in Virginia* (McLean, Va.: EPM Publications, 1992), 128.

¹⁹⁸Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 106.



Figure 5: John Cross' Oath of Allegiance, also known as the Loyalty Oath to the Union taken at Dranesville, Virginia in December 1862. Cross carried this oft-folded piece of paper with him to enable him to cross into Washington, D.C. and Union occupied portions of Virginia. It also helped him to get back property that had been taken by Union troops on several occasions.

Lucinda Dogan also experienced a loss of property as a result of the two battles. During First Manassas her corn crop was destroyed, but it was during and after Second Manassas that she faced the greatest destruction. Most of the fencing rails were taken by General Pope's troops in August of 1862. She had 400 acres fenced divided into eight fenced fields. The cavalry of General Kilpatrick took what remained after the battle in the summer and fall of 1863. Her corn crop fed the horses of General McDowell's men and hay that she had hidden in the woods for security as well as the potato harvest were taken. From the winter of 1862 until the spring of 1863 a cavalry regiment camped in the woods for a month and chopped down several acres of timber.¹⁹⁹ Such losses were not easily recovered when all of the neighbors were experiencing the same destruction.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that Rosefield was burned in November 1862 at the same time that Pittsylvania, Portici, and the town of Haymarket were burned. Haymarket was looted and burned by troops from Sigel's XI Corps the night of November 4, 1862. Only St. Paul's Church and a few small dwellings were spared. The residents were turned out of their homes after they had been searched by the Federal troops. Pittsylvania survived both battles of Manassas but was burned sometime in the fall of 1862 by marauding Union troops.²⁰⁰ It was used as a hospital after the First Battle of Manassas. At that time it was described as a "large frame structure painted the color of dark brick...and was called the brown house by wounded soldiers who were brought there for treatment" after the battles.²⁰¹ An artist's sketch of the house based on a March 1862 photograph taken from Henry Hill reveals the outline of the house as a double-pile hipped roof structure with two interior chimneys and a sheltered entry.²⁰² Events like this in addition to the turmoil caused by the earlier battles led to continued feelings of insecurity for the people of the region.

It is likely that Rosefield held wounded men as did most other houses all around it after the battle. Dogan and his wife may have relocated to one of the outbuildings after the battle in 1861 because of damage to the structure. The Dogan property decreased in value although household items remained the same. Medical Director McParlin selected the orchard at Rosefield as a central location for gathering wounded soldiers in need of transport to area hospitals. Ambulance wagons and any other vehicles that could be found were used to move the Union wounded to Centreville and from there on to Washington, D.C.²⁰³

¹⁹⁹Southern Claims Commission. Disallowed Claims. Lucinda Dogan Claim.

²⁰⁰Anecdotal evidence suggests that Pittsylvania and Rosefield burned along with other homes in the neighborhood (Portici) about the same time that Haymarket was burned by Union troops in November 1862. See Letter from H.F. Henry, Sr. to Cousin Ada, 20 March 1882 (Manassas National Battlefield Park).

²⁰¹Virginia Writer's Project. *Prince William, the Story of Its People and Places*, 159.

²⁰²R. Jackson Ratcliffe. *This Was Prince William*, 120.

²⁰³Louis C. Duncan. *The Medical Department of the United States Army in the Civil War* (Gaithersburg, Md.: Butternut Press, 1985. Reprint), 76.

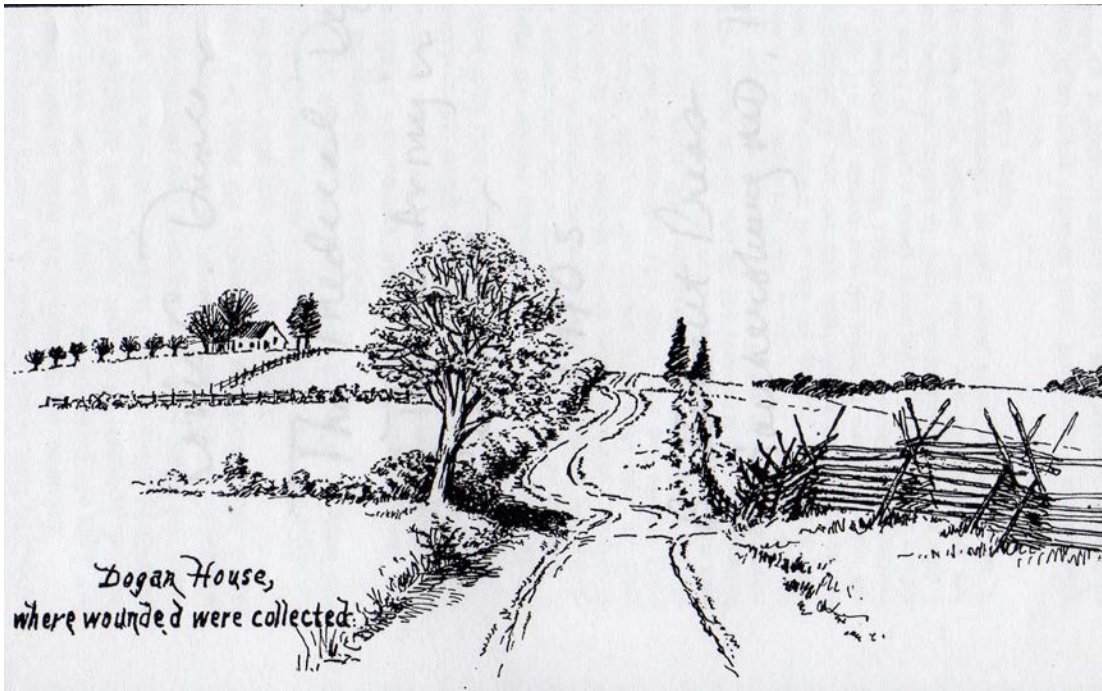


Figure 6: Drawing of Rosefield rendered some years after the Battle of Second Manassas by Captain Louis C. Duncan. The caption reads, "Dogan House, where wounded were collected."

The Battle of Bristoe Station and the Buckland Races in October 1863 once again brought the war very near to the residents of Groveton. The movements of John S. Mosby's cavalry also kept the neighborhood on the alert. Mosby led the 43rd Battalion of the 1st Virginia Cavalry. He and his men knew the Northern Virginia area well and were able to gather intelligence and quickly scatter away from frustrated Federal troops. Mosby was a local hero to secessionists, but was a target for the Union leadership who hoped to capture him.

On June 22, 1863, Mosby and his men encountered two companies of Union soldiers at Ewell's Chapel near Dunblane off the Carolina Road north of Groveton. Mosby realized he was entering an ambush and fled with his cavalry after shooting one of the Federal troops.²⁰⁴ Some of Mosby's men visited John Cross' farm one day and he told them "he wished they would keep away from there that he had no use for them."²⁰⁵

By July of 1861, James Robinson was well established in the community. His property was caught up in both the First and Second Battles of Manassas and was damaged. General Sigel occupied Robinson's farm for a time and his troops took hay, wheat, corn, and oats as well as livestock and furniture. After the war, Robinson filed a claim with the Southern Claims Commission and unlike most of his neighbors actually received some recompense for the losses he sustained.²⁰⁶

Much of Virginia was in ruins as the war ended. More than two hundred military engagements had occurred in the state. Houses were destroyed or damaged, crops and fields ruined, bridges down and rail lines disabled. The economy was in disarray and supplies were difficult to acquire. Inflation as a result of a flood of paper currency being passed into circulation made prices for basic goods exorbitant if there were even any to be found. There were shortages of medicines, food, clothing and cloth, soap, paper and metal goods.²⁰⁷ Virginia's plantation system was at an end and the people of the state had to find a new way to move on in the future.

²⁰⁴Alice Maude Ewell. *A Virginia Scene, or Life in Old Prince William* (Lynchburg, Va.: J.P. Bell Co., 1931), 76-77.

²⁰⁵Southern Claims Commission. Allowed Claims. John Cross Claim, Testimony of Thomas Gaskins.

²⁰⁶Southern Claims Commission. Allowed Claims. James Robinson file.

²⁰⁷James I. Robertson, Jr. *Civil War Virginia: Battleground for a Nation* (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1991), 107.

Chapter IV: Reconstruction and Recovery

A New Beginning

The official end of the war in 1865 did not bring about an end to trouble for the residents of Virginia. A federally imposed, “restored government” moved from Alexandria to Richmond where the Confederates under Jefferson Davis had recently managed their government operations. Virginia became Military District I under the Reconstruction Act of 1867. There was dissension within the new government over how to treat the former rebels. Some wanted to integrate them back into society as quickly as possible and others felt they should be punished for their actions. In Virginia, the Underwood Constitutional Convention of 1868, so called because Radical Republican Judge John C. Underwood dominated the proceedings, established adult male suffrage regardless of race and required an oath of loyalty to the Union for all jurors and officeholders. Robert E. Lee set an example for the South by taking an oath of loyalty. Most Southerners recognized that they needed to accept that the war had been lost and re-establish their ties to the United States. Military rule ended in 1870 when the Virginia Assembly voted to ratify the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution, which granted citizenship to former slaves as well as free blacks and also gave them the right to vote. A struggle for leadership over state government erupted between the Readjusters of William Mahone, a former Confederate general and railroad executive, and Conservatives who took control in 1870 when Virginia was readmitted to the Union. The Conservatives were largely made up of former elite residents who voted to completely repay the huge debt that Virginia owed on prewar bonds for infrastructure improvements in rail lines and canals. Mahone argued that the money was needed to bring Virginia’s schools in line with requirements established by the Underwood Convention. Mahone and his compatriots gained power for only a few years. Conservative candidates soon replaced the Readjusters, but they had won their point. The Assembly had voted to reduce the debt by half. In 1886, Fitzhugh Lee became the Democratic candidate for governor. Lee was an ex-Confederate and nephew of Robert E. Lee. His election heralded rule by the Democratic Party in the state government for the next eighty-four years.

The aftermath of the Civil War at Rosefield was similar to that of the surrounding region and the state, which had been devastated by destruction from the war and the toll of thousands of soldiers crossing property in search of food and firewood. Virginia’s industries and railroads had been destroyed. Agricultural endeavors were nearly at a standstill. Fences, trees, homes, and even entire towns had been decimated as the armies fought their way through the landscape. Virginia needed capital to rebuild but there was

little of that to be found within the state. Consequently, many of the southern railroads came under the management of northern railroad companies.²⁰⁸

Monuments sprang up on the battlefields of First and Second Manassas soon after the war ended. One was placed near the site of the Henry house with a plaque reading, "In Memory of the Patriots who fell at Bull Run, July 21, 1861." Another was placed on the Lucinda Dogan property near the Deep Cut honoring those that died at Groveton in August of 1862. Local citizens established the Groveton Confederate Cemetery in 1867 on Lucinda Dogan's property adjacent to John Dogan's Rosefield. Approximately 266 burials, most being unknowns, are documented and only two graves have individual headstones. Some sources suggest that as many as 500 individuals are buried in the cemetery. In 1904, the Bull Run Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy erected a monument at the site.²⁰⁹

Freed slaves rejoiced at the end of the war and had high hopes for the future. They were now free to be with family and begin to establish their own churches and schools, but most initially remained dependent on the white population for jobs and housing. Some left the area to find work in larger cities of the region such as Richmond, Baltimore, Alexandria, and Washington, D.C. The African American population dropped from thirty-four percent in 1860 to just twenty-four percent in 1870.²¹⁰ Congress established the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands in March of 1865 in anticipation of the needs of the former slaves. In Prince William County, the Bureau mainly worked towards establishing schools.

Racial tensions did not abate with the end of the war, but rather continued to inflame the emotions of both blacks and whites. Many former slave owners found the adjustment difficult. As the losers in the war, the new freedoms of their former slaves were a constant reminder of their humiliation. Governments in the South found ways to keep control over the activities of African American citizens through the passage of "Black codes." These laws restricted mobility, access to work and political liberty. They were supported by President Andrew Johnson's administration as a means to bring the South back into the Union as quickly as possible. Efforts to redistribute land from former masters to slaves were quickly halted and ex-Confederates received pardons from the government with little difficulty.²¹¹

The war had a lasting impact on many of those who lived near the battlefields of First and Second Manassas. Edwin Carter of Pittsylvania returned to find that house destroyed and his already tenuous way of life in ruins. The Carters never really recovered from their loss. They lived in a small cabin a few steps from the foundation of their former home until a new house, more modest than the original mansion, could be

²⁰⁸Emily J. Salmon and Edward D.C. Campbell, Jr., eds. *The Hornbook of Virginia History* (Richmond, Va.: The Library of Virginia, 1994), 54.

²⁰⁹Zenzen. *Battling for Manassas*, 3.

²¹⁰Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 129.

²¹¹David W. Blight. *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory* (Cambridge, Ma.: Harvard University Press, 2001), 45.

built. Carter and his sisters had the old family cemetery enclosed with a stone wall in 1885.²¹²

Close neighbor Ellen Henry was left permanently deafened by the battle that killed her mother, Judith Henry, and destroyed her home around her. After a new house was built on the site of the old foundation in 1870, she continued to live at Spring Hill with her brother Hugh and the orphaned children of her brother John until her death in 1888.²¹³

Another neighbor, Frank Lewis of Portici, also returned home after the war to a house that had been burned and a plantation in disarray. Lewis built a new house on the property but it was never as profitable as it had once been. After some years of growing wheat, oats, and corn among other produce, Lewis eventually began to have dairy cattle on his land, as did many other farmers in the area.²¹⁴ Many landowners could no longer afford the labor to farm the majority of their land and began to engage in subsistence farming and the raising of livestock.²¹⁵ After Reconstruction the average size of farms was 150 acres – a far cry from the thousands owned by Wormeley Carter of Rosefield as the nineteenth century began.

Initially, there were freedoms available to the new citizens of Virginia. African Americans could vote – and did – in the early years after the war. Former slaves, Mahalia Dean and her grandson, Shoefly, went to work for the Carter's of Pittsylvania for wages while living on their own property. Philip Nash rented land from Mary Jane Dogan and grew corn. James Peters lived on part of the former lands of the Rosefield estate on land purchased from John Cross.²¹⁶ Peters had been a slave at Woodland and made his escape when he learned of plans to sell him and other slaves before the war. Peters jumped on the back of a passing wagon that was headed to Fairfax Courthouse. From there he went to Alexandria and was eventually recruited by the army in 1863.²¹⁷ After the war he returned to the area and worked as a laborer black living with his wife and three children. Andrew Redman remained at Groveton working as a blacksmith and lived with his wife and five children.²¹⁸

²¹²Letter from Sarah Jane Carter to Mary, 8 August 1885. Carter Family Papers. Manassas National Battlefield Park.

²¹³Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 128-129.

²¹⁴*Ibid.*, 129, 145.

²¹⁵Reeves, ed. *Stone House*, 2.8.

²¹⁶Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 140-141, 146; PWC Deed Book 35:577-578, microfilm.

²¹⁷*Ibid.*, 113; Vertical file: Robinson House/Henry Hill. Manassas National Battlefield Park archives.

²¹⁸U.S. Census, 1880, microfilm.

Rosefield after the War

By 1870 the total number of Prince William County farms had declined to 575 – a trend that had continued since 1850 when there were 605 farms. However, by 1880 the number had climbed to 1,118 as more individuals began to turn to the raising of livestock and dairy farming on smaller tracts of land.²¹⁹

The 1870 Census reveals John Dogan's situation after the war. Dogan was sixty-seven years old in that year and identified himself as a farmer. His wife, Ann, was keeping house and niece, Mary Jane aged 31, was a retail trader. In addition to the Dogan family, the household also included Patsy Smith, a 16 year-old free black woman.²²⁰ Patsy Smith – 1870 census she could read but not write. In 1880 she was listed as an employee and housekeeper and could read and write. Both of her parents were identified as being from Virginia.²²¹

Dogan had no horses in 1870 whereas he had seven in 1860. He had six milk cows, and two swine. The milk cows were used for the production of butter. Dogan's main agricultural crops were 100 bushels of wheat, 750 bushels of Indian corn and 400 bushels of oats. In addition, his orchard was maturing and he recorded two hundred dollars worth of orchard products.²²² Dogan was probably hiring farm laborers; perhaps some of his former slaves remained to work for wages.

Just before the onset of the war in 1861 the land and buildings at Rosefield had been valued at \$7,434.00 including a value of \$1,500.00 for the buildings. In 1865 there was surprisingly little change in the total value of the property, which was set at \$6,434.00. The buildings value had dropped to \$500 so the change in value is all due to the change in buildings value and reflect the loss of the main dwelling. Dogan and his wife evidently lived in one of their outbuildings after the loss of their house in late 1862. The kitchen or the slave quarters are possibilities as they would already have been equipped with a fireplace for heating and cooking. Other than the loss of most of his livestock, Dogan's personal property remained nearly the same after the war. His household furnishings were valued at \$325 – a loss of twenty-five dollars over what they had been valued at in 1861 and he still had one clock and gold and silver which had actually increased in value by five dollars by 1866.²²³

²¹⁹“1870 Prince William County Agricultural Census Schedule Index” *Prince William County Reliquary* Vol. 1, No. 3 (July 2002), 64: “Index to Agricultural Schedule Prince William County, Virginia, 1880” *Prince William County Reliquary* Vol. 2, No. 4 (Oct 2003), 99.

²²⁰U.S. Census 1870, microfilm.

²²¹U.S. Census, 1870; 1880, microfilm.

²²²U.S. Census, Agricultural schedule, 1860, 1870, microfilm.

²²³PWC Personal Property Tax, 1861, 1865; PWC Land Tax, 1861, 1865, microfilm.

John Dogan passed away in 1875 at the age of seventy-two and was buried in the family cemetery at the old Peach Grove property established by his father. The cemetery is now part of the grounds of the Stonewall Memory Gardens.²²⁴ Dogan's wife continued to live at Rosefield. The land tax continued to be paid in Dogan's name until 1878. Ann M. Dogan was then listed as the owner with 114 acres including the buildings with life rights until 1879.²²⁵

Mary Jane Dogan, Merchant

The owners of the Stone House attempted to profit from battlefield visitors and turnpike traffic. Henry and Jane Matthew and then Gideon Starbuck ran the house as a tavern and hotel for some years after the war.²²⁶ Other businesses operating at Groveton were Andrew Redman's blacksmith shop, which he continued to run until the 1880s. Sudley also supported a few commercial operations. Wheelwright John Thornberry was back in business in spite of a total loss of all of his possessions as a result of the Federal occupation of Sudley during First Manassas.²²⁷ In 1871, Thornberry moved out of the area and B.R. Cross, son of John Cross, took over the blacksmith portion of the business. Carson Matthew and his wife acquired the Thornberry House and established a post office there in 1871. The Sudley Methodist Church remained a central part of the community and the Sudley Springs Hotel remained in operation. A man from Pennsylvania, Andrew Fetzer, restored the merchant mill in 1875.²²⁸

Mary Jane Dogan held a merchants license and paid an additional fee to sell tobacco as well. She was listed as a general merchant in Virginia business directories.²²⁹ Dogan operated a general store for the neighborhood and along with other sundry items sold war relics to tourists who came to see the battlefields and visit the monuments.²³⁰ Local residents had picked up everything they could find from the fields after the battles. Items such as guns, swords, haversacks and canteens were prized as well as cannonballs

²²⁴Turner. *Burial Index, 1800-2001*, 91. There are fourteen known burials in the Dogan cemetery. The earliest was an infant child of Henry and Mary Wheeler Dogan in 1789 and the last was Lucinda M. Lewis Dogan in 1910.

²²⁵PWC Land Tax, 1875-1879. In 1879 the land was purchased by the estate of D.F. Hooe. PWC Deed Book 31:459, microfilm.

²²⁶Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 135-136.

²²⁷*Ibid.*, 138, 139.

²²⁸Joseph. "Manassas National Battlefield Park Cultural Landscape Inventory: Northwest Quadrant." Manassas, Va.: National Park Service, 1996, 3:27-28; Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 139.

²²⁹Ron Turner, comp. *PWC Business Licenses 1806-1899*. There are known licenses for Dogan for the years 1874-1884; *PWC 1805-1955 Businesses*.

²³⁰The location of Mary Jane Dogan's store has not been established. It may have been located in the structure located on the corner of Groveton Road and Warrenton Turnpike that is also referred to as Dogan's Tavern. See Joseph. "Cultural Landscape Inventory," 4-98-4-99.

and shells.²³¹ The store contained showcases and a counter selling candy, sewing supplies among other sundry items.²³² The number of tourists was probably low as the turnpike was in bad condition having received little or no maintenance during the war years, but some determined people made the pilgrimage to the battlefields in spite of the inconvenience. Railroads had already taken some of the road's business before the war, but as they came back into business they were used even more than before.²³³

Never married, Mary Jane continued to live with her aunt and uncle, Ann and John Dogan until his death. She was involved in the Sudley Church community along with most of her neighbors. The 1880 agricultural schedule for the census reveals that her property of land, buildings, and fences was worth \$1,150.00. A tenant farmed her land.

Mary Jane Dogan wrote her will at the end of 1890. An illness must have motivated her to get her affairs in order as she passed away soon after. She first dealt with some debts she owed including one for fifty dollars to her brother John Franklin Dogan whom she also named as executor of her estate. Her beneficiaries were her niece, Dora Dogan, her friend Patsy Smith, adopted daughter Margaret-Catharine and a sister, Henrie Esther.²³⁴

Dogan's "faithful friend" Patsy Smith was to receive twenty-five acres of land "including the house thereon commonly called 'Tom's Cabbin.'" Patsy or Patty Smith was an African American woman who had been living and working with Mary Jane Dogan since at least 1870. Patsy worked as housekeeper for Mary Jane. She was born in Virginia, as were both of her parents.²³⁵

Dora L. Dogan received a bequest of two hundred dollars as a token of her aunt's affection. Mary Jane's sister was bequeathed her best set of silver teaspoons and a marble topped table with casters. Her adopted daughter was given the rest of Dogan's land that was left after all of the debts of her estate were paid.²³⁶

A sale was held on February 24, 1891 and Dogan's belongings were auctioned off. Some of her relatives made purchases of practical items like buckets and stoves. Included in the inventory was a map of the United States, a lot of books and pamphlets, a cow and its calf. Some of the items were from the store like two showcases and a counter, a spool case with twenty-three spools of thread, and a box with "odds and ends from the store." The sum total of her personal property was appraised at \$163.30 but sold for only \$150.69. After all of her personal business was settled, including the payment of

²³¹Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 101.

²³²PWC Will Book U:396-401, microfilm. The inventory of Mary Jane Dogan's possessions also included "2 paper boxes with odds and ends from the store."

²³³Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 138.

²³⁴PWC Will Book U:331-332, microfilm. The name of Dogan's adopted daughter is difficult to decipher. It may be Margaret-Catharine Wiley or Haley.

²³⁵Smith does not appear to have been a former slave of Mary Jane Dogan's. In 1860 she owned twenty-three year old female and a fourteen-year-old male.

²³⁶PWC Will Book U:331-332, microfilm.

land taxes for the years 1889 through 1891, the executor was still owed \$24.51 from the estate.²³⁷

John Cross Purchases Rosefield

John Cross was a resident of the Groveton area for many years before purchasing Rosefield. Cross was born in 1815. He had married his wife Elizabeth by 1835 and in 1840 they had four children. Cross was involved in agriculture. Ten years later his property off Pageland Lane was valued at twenty-four hundred dollars. By the 1860s Cross had beef cattle and was growing hay and corn on his property Rock Hill Farm off Pageland Lane and along Catharpin Run. He had 360 acres of land with one hundred acres under cultivation at the beginning of the war. Cross had three sons that worked the farm with him and did not own any slaves.

As talk of secession from the United States increased in Virginia, Cross let his feelings be known. Cross believed “the government we had was good enough for me.” As the vote for secession loomed, Cross did not go to the polls to vote as he had been threatened by neighbors and feared “violence if I had voted against it as I wanted to.”²³⁸ In spite of Cross’ feelings about the war, two of his sons fought for the Confederacy. They both served in the Black Horse Cavalry, a company of the Fourth Virginia Cavalry. The eldest son, John P. Cross joined in March of 1862 at Stafford and the second son, Hamilton J. Cross enlisted in September of the same year at Stryder’s Mill. Cross tried to dissuade his sons from joining and urged them to go to the north to wait out the war but they could not resist the pressure they endured by peers to join the army.²³⁹ The Confederate Army could be aggressive in its pursuit of recruits. George Robertson of Brentsville was ordered to show up for the militia but did not go on the appointed date. He was forced to go and served at the Battle of First Manassas. After the battle he was allowed to return to his farm but whenever he learned there was military in the area he would hide until the danger had passed.²⁴⁰ While their service to the Confederacy no doubt distressed their father, it may have also helped him from suffering greater retribution by his neighbors for his political beliefs and his close relationship with the Union forces that were camped nearby for much of the war.

Local government was reorganized after the war with each county divided into townships with each township having a representative on an elected board of supervisors. This board replaced the old county court system.²⁴¹ Cross was one of the House Keepers of the county in 1867 and was responsible for inspecting roads and helping to carry out repairs.²⁴² In 1870, Cross became an overseer of Road District No. 2 for the county, a

²³⁷PWC Will Book U:396-97; PWC Will Book U:451-52, microfilm.

²³⁸Southern Claims Commission. Accepted Claims. Claim of John Cross.

²³⁹Ibid.

²⁴⁰Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 102.

²⁴¹Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 134.

²⁴²PWC Clerk’s Loose Papers, Vol. IV, 220. 3 June 1867.

post he held until at least 1875. He was paid \$61.20 for the year 1871-1872 for services rendered and to reimburse him for teams hired to carry out repairs.²⁴³

Congress established the Southern Claims Commission in 1871 to respond to the losses experienced by those loyal to the Union. Any loss of property had to have been at the hands of the Union Army and not by individuals on scavenging raids. Former slaveholders were not eligible and those that applied for reparations had to be able to establish their loyalty. The process included a written petition followed by testifying in front of the commission with additional witnesses to support the claim.²⁴⁴

Cross submitted a claim stating that his losses totaled 1,085 dollars but finally received only 870 dollars at the end of 1875. Cross was fortunate to receive such a large percentage of the requested amount. James Robinson also filed a claim to the commission and received less than half of his request.²⁴⁵ Cross was no doubt helped by the fact that there was no testimony contradicting his claim of consistent loyalty to the Union. Cross also received the endorsement of the Special Commissioner who added remarks to the file, "Claimant lives in a community not noted for its loyalty; He bears a very good reputation with those who knew him. The witness Gaskins is well known as a Union man during the war. Claimant and his family are highly respectable."²⁴⁶

Cross paid land tax on sixteen acres on Catharpin Run and 200 acres identified as being part of Woodville in 1881.²⁴⁷ By 1883 he owned an additional 115 acres near Sudley. Cross added to his land holdings in 1882 when he paid two thousand dollars for the "land lying near Groveton known as the John D. Dogan tract."²⁴⁸ Cross first paid tax for the 413 acres of Rosefield in 1884. In 1886 the deed was released and Cross paid an additional 1,500 dollars for the property.²⁴⁹

Cross, his wife, and family were members of the Sudley Methodist Church beginning in the late 1840s. In the 1870s, Cross' property was worth \$7200.00. He and his wife still had eight children living at home. While Cross and his wife could neither read nor write, all of their children could and son Reynaldo and daughter Adonia were attending school in 1870 when they were fifteen and seventeen years old, respectively.²⁵⁰ By 1880, there were just three children, a daughter-in-law, and five grandchildren living with the couple.²⁵¹

²⁴³Beverly R. Veness, Transcriber. *Minutes of Gainesville Township Supervisors 1870-1875 and Haymarket Town Council, 1882-1883, Prince William County, Virginia* (Prince William County Library, RELIC, 1999), 1, 3, 10, and 17.

²⁴⁴Wood. *Coming to Manassas*, 147-148.

²⁴⁵*Ibid.*, 149.

²⁴⁶Southern Claims Commission, Allowed Claims. John Cross, 9866-41731.

²⁴⁷PWC Land Tax, 1881, microfilm.

²⁴⁸PWC Deed Book 33:342, microfilm.

²⁴⁹PWC Deed Book 39:572-573, microfilm.

²⁵⁰Sudley Methodist Church Class Books; U.S. Census, 1870, microfilm.

²⁵¹U.S. Census, 1870 and 1880, microfilm.

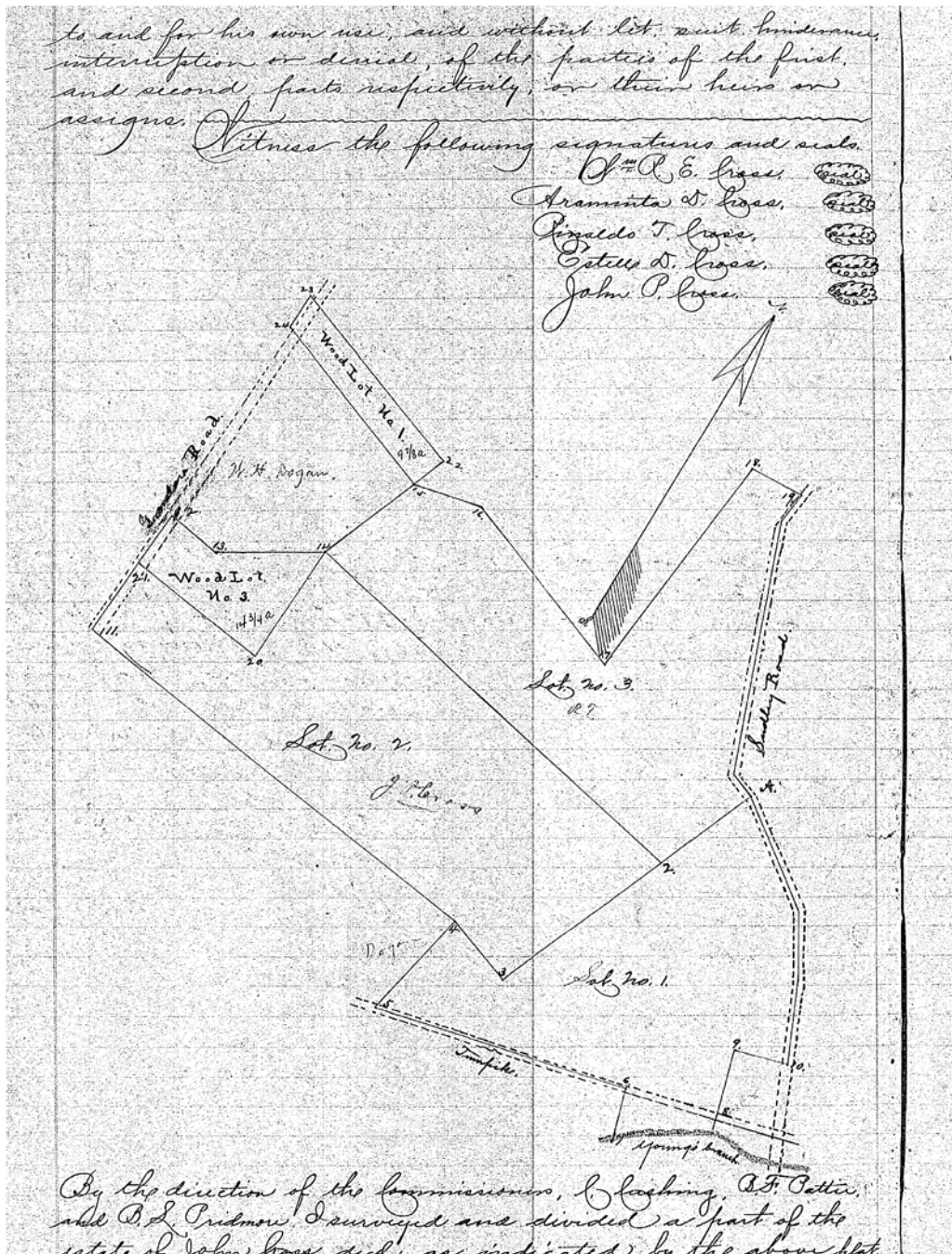


Figure 7: Plat of John Cross' Rosefield property divided into three lots after his death in 1890.

Cross' will was written in January of 1889 and he passed away in 1890. His wife had died a few years earlier in 1886. He left his household and kitchen furniture to his daughter, Atossa, as well as the dwelling house and some portion of land at his Catharpin Run property known as Rock Hill Farm.²⁵² It shared a fence line with Mary Jane Dogan. Another daughter, Golia, who had married a Charles Cross, was to receive the balance of the Woodville land. The contents of the will indicate that Cross never lived at Rosefield. His son John P. Cross may have been occupying the structure that John Dogan and his wife had occupied, but there is no reference to any specific buildings at Rosefield in the senior Cross' division of the land.²⁵³ Neighbor Hugh Henry wrote in a letter dated April 1890 that "the Rosefield house has not been rebuilt and it is pretty much in the same condition it was left at the close of the war. It has changed hands several times since then and it now belongs to a man of the name of Cross, who lives in a small out house that was not burned. It was a lovely spot...and is susceptible of being made so again with a small outlay, but the man who owns it is not able to spend money upon it."²⁵⁴

His sons received the Gant and Dogan tracts. Barzillia received the portion of land adjoining land Cross previously had sold to James Deane, James Peters, and William Jordan.²⁵⁵ Sons W.R.E. Cross, R.T. Cross and John P. Cross were to divide the Dogan and Gant tracts equally as to quality and quantity. In the land division, W.R.E. Cross received the portion that had been the site of the house at Rosefield. Another son, Hamilton, was bequeathed one hundred dollars, which was to be paid him by the three brothers.²⁵⁶

Cross' personal property was appraised at \$873.31 and sold for over one thousand dollars at the sale held in April of 1890. His livestock included forty-four sheep, ten cows, three steers, a mare and colt and a sow with eight piglets. Cross owned tools related to his work on the roads and others related to agriculture such as a corn sheller and wheat fan. Included in the inventory were twenty-six barrels of corn, 112 bushels of oats as well as hay and fodder.²⁵⁷

²⁵²Prince William County proposed to open the road from Wellington to Pageland Lane "near the Cross house" in 1889. Turner. *PWC Clerk's Loose Papers, Vol. IV*, 297-298.

²⁵³PWC Will Book U:272-274, microfilm.

²⁵⁴Letter from Hugh F. Henry, Sr. to Ada April 1890. Henry Family Papers. Manassas National Battlefield Park; also letter from Edwin L. Carter to Mary E. Carter 10 October 1895, Edwin L. Carter Papers. Manassas National Battlefield Park.

²⁵⁵PWC Deed Book 39:283. Microfilm. Sale of land from John Cross to William Jordan. Cross also sold a small piece of land "lying on Sudley Mills and Manassas Roads" to John S. Mundy in 1886. PWC Deed Book 44:59, microfilm.

²⁵⁶PWC Will Book U: 272-274, microfilm. Part of the terms of the will was that Barzillia and Rinaldo T. Cross had to repay the debt they owed their father to his estate. Rinaldo never appears on land tax rolls nor does his name appear on the deed when the land was divided.

²⁵⁷PWC Will Book U:282-283; PWC Will Book U:288-289, microfilm.

Temperance in Prince William County

The last decades of the nineteenth century brought social change to the county. The temperance movement had been in existence throughout the United States for many years. It began to become more prominent in the 1880s. A “Petition Against Liquor” was presented to the Prince William County Court in 1885. It stated that the undersigned citizens “knowing the evil influences arising from the sell [sic] of intoxicating liquors, hereby protest against it and respectfully petition your honor to refuse to grant licenses for the sale of intoxicants within the corporation of Manassas or vicinity of three miles.” A list of the names of eighty-five women appeared on the petition including the Misses M.E. and S.C. Carter of Pittsylvania.²⁵⁸

Two years later in 1887 a “Colored Persons Petition” was presented to the court. It included both men and women and requested that the sale of liquor be kept at least four miles from the boundaries of the Corporation of Manassas. The white citizens of Manassas also presented an additional petition in that same year which included both men and women.²⁵⁹ Prohibition was still some years off when the Eighteenth Amendment made all sale of liquor illegal in 1919, but social pressure was beginning to grow in the 1880s.

²⁵⁸Turner. *PWC Clerk’s Loose Papers*, Vol. VII, 21-22.

²⁵⁹*Ibid.*, 43-45.

Chapter V:

Rosefield in the Twentieth Century

The population of Prince William County in 1900 was 11,112, an increase from its lowest point in 1870 when it stood at just 7,504 people. In 1800 the population of the county had been 12,733 – a number not surpassed until 1920. From that point on the county has sustained steady growth.²⁶⁰ The first decades of the twentieth century brought significant changes in technology. The automobile and telephone made travel and communication easier. Wesley Rollins who lived on a portion of the Rosefield land in the first quarter of the twentieth century had a 1921 Model T Ford in his possession at his death. The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company began purchasing right of way for telephone lines in the early 1920s.²⁶¹ Inventories of personal property during this period show that farmers used animal-drawn farm implements in addition to mechanized agricultural equipment.

Social change came to the region as well. The Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified in 1920. It assured the “right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State on account of sex. Annie Rollins voted in the Gainesville District of Prince William County in 1921 and 1922 along with her husband Wesley Rollins.”²⁶²

During the first half of the twentieth century, the 413 acres that John Dogan had farmed was broken up into several tracts of various sizes. The lots ranged from one and a half acres to 102 acres. Four sons of John Cross had inherited the 413 acres of Rosefield land from their father in 1890, less the few acres he had sold off to former slaves. It remained intact between the Cross brothers for just five years and then began to be sold and subdivided although members of the Cross family retained some acreage through the 1920s.

²⁶⁰U.S. Census data from George B. Brown. *George Brown’s A History of Prince William County* (Prince William County Historical Commission, 2006), 297.

²⁶¹PWC Deed Book 80:167, Heirs of J.L. Sowers to Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company Utility Easement, microfilm.

²⁶²U.S. Constitution, Amendment 19, Ratified 18 August 1920; Turner. *PWC Clerk’s Loose Papers*, Vol. V, 180, 185, 187.

Cross Lot #1

William R.E. Cross, known as Eben, inherited Lot #1 of the Rosefield tract. His portion was 102 acres of which almost ten acres were in woods. Just a few months later, Eben Cross acquired an additional twenty acres from his brother, J.P. Cross from Lot #2.²⁶³

Thomas Moss acquired 104 and one-quarter acres of Rosefield in 1912 after the death of W.R.E. Cross. Moss already held some land in the area. Cross' widow retained nineteen acres of unimproved land until 1916 when she sold ten acres to John F. Dogan, a nephew of John Dogan of Rosefield.²⁶⁴

When Moss took possession of the property the buildings were assessed at 367 dollars as they had been since 1902. In 1914 the value of the buildings was only 217 dollars and in that year Moss also sold one and one half acres of unimproved land to Annie Haislip leaving him with 102 and three quarters acres. A roof was added to a building on Moss' property in 1915 bring the value up to 317 dollars, but the next year the assessment was reduced to 300 dollars where it remained through 1920.²⁶⁵

Jahile L. Sowers purchased Rosefield from Thomas Moss in 1919. He and his wife Frances Sowers, married in 1900, lived there with their six children. J.L. Sowers, as he was known, had been born in Floyd County, Virginia at the end of the Civil War in 1865. Shortly after purchasing the property Sowers built Rosefield II. In 1921 the building value on the land tax increased to 550 dollars. There is no notation in the record to indicate the changes that were made, but the substantial increase likely indicates new house construction.²⁶⁶

Sowers farmed the 102 acres and had a corn planter, hay binder and seeder among his implements. He had three horses for fieldwork and a buggy for transportation. Sowers passed away in 1922 at his home of heart trouble just a few years after purchasing the farm. He left the property to his wife with the stipulation that the farm would pass to his three sons at her death with monetary considerations for each of their daughters. Frances Sowers sold Rosefield to Leroy Oesterling in 1954 after living there for thirty-five years.²⁶⁷

²⁶³PWC Deed Book 39:558-562; PWC Deed Book 40:125-126, microfilm.

²⁶⁴PWC Deed Book 62:135-136, W.R.E. Cross to Thomas Moss; PWC Deed Book 70:151-152, Cross to John F. Dogan, microfilm.

²⁶⁵PWC Deed Book 64:199, Thomas Moss to Annie Haislip, microfilm; PWC Land Tax, 1902 through 1920, Library of Virginia, Archives

²⁶⁶PWC Deed Book 73:40, Thomas E. Moss to J.L. Sowers, microfilm; PWC Land Tax 1920-1921, Library of Virginia, Archives.

²⁶⁷PWC Will Book Z:282-284, microfilm; Frances Ellen Sowers died 22 November 1962.

Cross Lot #2

In 1895 Wesley Rollins purchased the ninety-eight acres that John P. Cross had inherited from his father.²⁶⁸ The Rosefield tract had been divided into three parts and John P. Cross had inherited 118 acres comprising the middle portion, but later sold twenty acres on the right side of the property to his brother, W.R.E. Cross.²⁶⁹

Rollins married Annie Bell Swart of Aldie in 1896. They lived on the property, which Rollins farmed. The couple did not have any children, but in 1910 a nephew was living with them. Rollins, born in 1862, was the son of John Rollins who had served as bodyguard to General Robert E. Lee during the war. The elder Rollins had lived in the area between Gainesville and Wellington.²⁷⁰

Wesley Hilburn Rollins died without a will in 1932 while visiting a relative, but an estate appraisal was held in February of 1933.²⁷¹ His total estate including real estate was valued at over fifteen thousand dollars. In addition to the acreage he resided on, Rollins also held one half interest in forty-two acres of unimproved land. He possessed almost five thousand dollars in cash and stock and another six thousand dollars was owed to him in notes by a variety of individuals.²⁷²

Rollins personal property reveals the change in American life just after the turn of the twentieth century. He owned an automobile and a telephone. He had modern farm implements as well as draft horses. His primary occupation was farming. He grew hay and corn, had sixty hens and eleven Hereford cattle at the time of his death.²⁷³

Rollins and his wife had no children. Rollins' heirs were his two brothers, two sisters and a number of nieces and nephews who were all residents of Virginia. The estate was evenly divided between them.²⁷⁴ Two sales were held of his personal property netting twelve hundred dollars.²⁷⁵ Walter C. Sadd purchased the property after the Rollins Estate settled in 1933.

²⁶⁸PWC Deed Book 44:93-94, microfilm.

²⁶⁹PWC Deed Book 40:125-126, microfilm.

²⁷⁰U.S. Census, 1910; Turner. *Prince William County, Virginia, 1900-1930 Obituaries*, 309.

²⁷¹According to the 1930 Census, Rollins was living with his younger brother, Fred Rollins, a trader and livestock dealer. His wife had died the previous year, but he still kept his household intact and worked his farm until his death in 1932. Both Wesley Rollins and Annie Rollins are buried at Sudley Methodist Church Cemetery.

²⁷²PWC Will Book 3:29-31, microfilm.

²⁷³*Ibid.*

²⁷⁴PWC Will Book 3:10, microfilm.

²⁷⁵PWC Will Book 3:58-62, microfilm.

Cross Lot #3

John Cross' will specifically stipulated which tract of land his son Barzillia Cross was to inherit with the remainder to be divided between sons John P, W.R.E., and Rinaldo T. Cross. Barzillia and Rinaldo T. owed money to their father at his death and he required that the debt be repaid to the estate before they could take possession of the property. Rinaldo paid off the debt he owed to his father's estate in 1890. He was a resident in Washington, D.C. and may have had no interest in the land in Prince William County.²⁷⁶ Barzillia evidently took longer to repay his debt as the land remained in the John Cross estate for ten years after his death until 1899 when Barzillia began to pay land tax. For that year he paid for just three and three quarter acres. However, in 1902 he paid tax for 186 acres for "part Rosefield" and held that property for a couple of years. Once Barzillia Cross got his finances in order, he evidently purchased his brother Rinaldo's share of the land.²⁷⁷

Lot #3 was subdivided more than either Lot #1 or Lot #2. Cross sold 82 ½ acres to Erasmus Turner by 1911. Turner held the property throughout the next twenty years, but did sell two and a half acres to W.H. Spencer in 1913. Cross held ninety-four acres until 1917 when he sold forty acres to John M. Caton.²⁷⁸ In 1926 the Cross acreage was reduced to forty-eight.

²⁷⁶PWC Deed Book 39:577-578, microfilm. Release of deed to Rinaldo T. Cross. Microfilm.

²⁷⁷PWC Land Tax, 1890-1902, microfilm and Library of Virginia, Archives.

²⁷⁸PWC Deed Book 62:168-169, Erasmus Turner to W.H. Spencer. Microfilm. PWC Land Tax, 1911-1919, Library of Virginia, Archives.

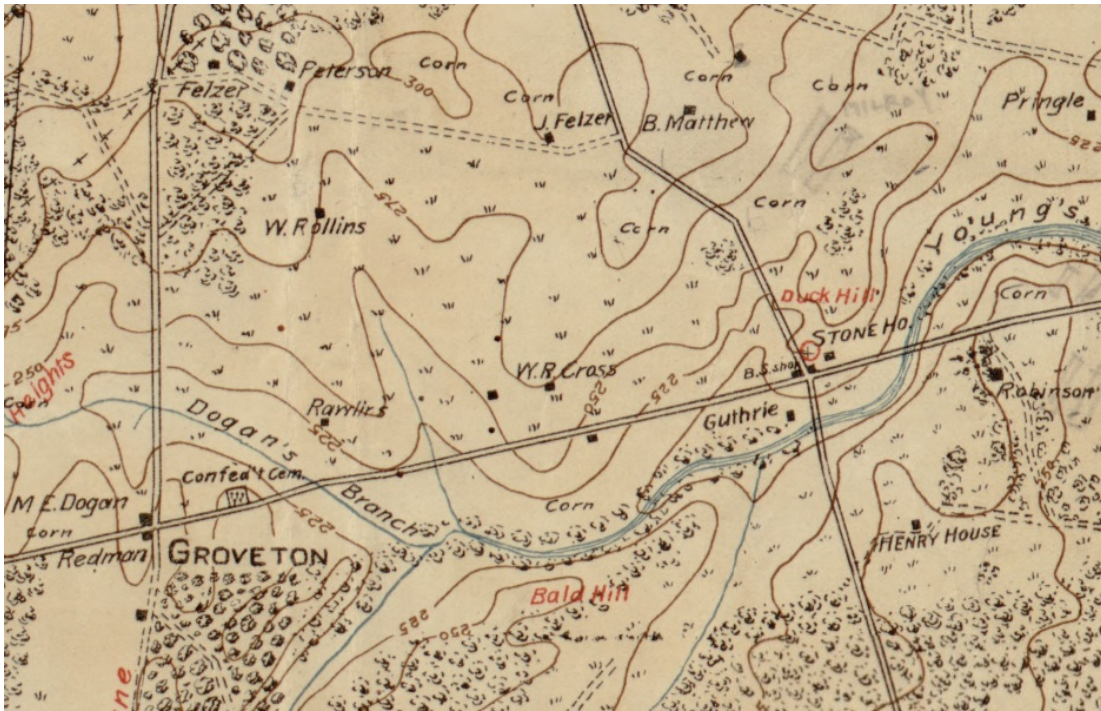


Figure 8: Map of the location of the 1904 maneuvers showing the W.R. Cross and Wesley H. Rollins property in the center of the image. Rollins is incorrectly spelled as Rawlins on the map in the property just east of Dogan's Branch.

1904 Maneuvers

In September of 1904, Prince William County hosted Army maneuvers on the sites of the Civil War battles. These were the first peacetime maneuvers held as training exercises and the battle plans of the Manassas battles were employed to give experience to 5,000 regular troops and twelve thousand militiamen from both the North and

South.²⁷⁹ 65,000 acres of land was leased from area farmers at twenty cents an acre. The one million dollar budget included reimbursements to property owners for any damage to their crops or livestock that might occur as a result of the maneuvers.²⁸⁰

Individual homeowners were approached as to whether they would be willing to house visitors to the maneuvers. A list of people was included in an issue of the *Manassas Journal* to help visitors select a place to stay. Included was Wesley Rollins who offered that he could accommodate six people at his home two miles from the Stone House and his neighbor W.R.E Cross also advertised that he had space for ten people at his home one half mile from the Stone House.²⁸¹ Manassas and Gainesville districts received money to improve roads in the area in preparation for the expected crowds, but they were still described as “badly worn metaled roads” in a newspaper article.²⁸²

The dedication of the Groveton Confederate Monument took place on August 30, 1904 while the troops were there for the maneuvers. Many of the men who participated had been at the battles of Manassas in 1861 and 1862 and found the landscape had changed little. The local farmers also had a familiar experience since once again they had to deal with crops and fields that had been trampled by troops.²⁸³

The National Jubilee of Peace and Preservation of the Battlefield

The Manassas National Jubilee of Peace was held on July 21, 1911 in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Battle of First Manassas. George Carr Round, a Union veteran who had moved to Manassas after the Civil War organized the celebration. He sought to promote reconciliation by bringing together former soldiers from both the North and South at the site of the Civil War’s first major battle. Furthermore, Round believed that the battlefield needed to be preserved and petitioned Congress for the first time in 1901 towards that end. Round was not the only person interested in preserving the sites of the Civil War and Congress was soon inundated with requests to save numerous famous battlegrounds.²⁸⁴

²⁷⁹Tish Como. “Effects of the 1904 Army Maneuvers on the Greater Manassas Community,” *Prince William Reliquary*, Vol. 9:1, 1-2.

²⁸⁰*Ibid.*, 3.

²⁸¹“Where to Find Entertainment,” *The Manassas Journal*, 5 September 1904, p. 2. Online transcription at: <http://files.usgwarchives.net/va/princewilliam/newspaper/1904agaz.txt>: accessed October 19, 2011.

²⁸²Como. “Effects of the 1904 Maneuvers,” 5.

²⁸³*Ibid.*, 10, 14-15.

²⁸⁴Joan Zenzen. *Battling for Manassas: The Fifty Year Preservation Struggle at Manassas National Battlefield Park* (University Park, Pa.: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1998), 4-7.

Initially, the idea was to preserve only small border areas near significant sites and erect plaques, leaving the surrounding land for agricultural use. Round suggested that the Manassas Battlefield encompass approximately two hundred acres, including Henry Hill, twenty-five acres of the Lucinda Dogan farm where the Groveton Monument stood, and smaller areas around Major General John Pope's headquarters site and the unfinished railroad cut.²⁸⁵

It took another ten years before Congress took any significant action on the matter of the preservation of Manassas battlefield. Debates ensued over establishing the significance of the site and deciding how much money would be necessary to support the management of a battlefield park. One issue was how much to pay for the Henry property, which remained occupied by members of the family. Round and others argued that Henry Hill was central to the importance of the battlefield. Congress passed a Manassas bill in March of 1913. P.L. 412 provided for the War Department to have the site surveyed, meet with landowners, and negotiate for the purchase of 128 acres of the Henry Farm and 145 acres of the Lucinda Dogan farm. The three-member board of the War Department recommended the purchase of the lands, but the United States looming concerns over the war in Europe interrupted the process of preserving Manassas battlefield.²⁸⁶

In the years following World War I, interest in preservation resumed and in 1922 the Sons of Confederate Veterans created the Manassas Battlefield Confederate Park at the Henry Hill property. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt folded the battlefield into one of his New Deal initiatives and added to the lands owned in the area of Manassas battlefield. The National Park Service took over the care of the nation's military parklands in 1933. Finally, in May of 1940 the Manassas National Battlefield Park was established.²⁸⁷

The Order designating Manassas as a national battlefield park stated, "...the authority conferred by section 2 of the act of Congress approved August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666), do hereby designate all those certain tracts or parcels of land, with the structures thereon, containing approximately 1,604.575 acres...having the name "Manassas National Battlefield Park."²⁸⁸

The Lucinda Dogan house was donated to the Park in 1948 by the Prince William County Chamber of Commerce, which had purchased the land, comprised of less than an acre, and stabilized the structure before turning it over. The Stone House was purchased in 1949 along with sixty-six acres.²⁸⁹

In 1954 Congress passed an "Act to preserve within Manassas National Battlefield Park, Virginia the most important historic properties relating to the battles of

²⁸⁵Ibid., 8.

²⁸⁶Ibid., 10-11.

²⁸⁷Ibid., 12.

²⁸⁸"Order Designating the Manassas National Battlefield Park, Virginia, " 10 May 1940, file National Military Parks Corr., box 2596A, entry 7, RG 79, NARA.

Reproduced as Appendix 1 in Zenzen. *Battling for Manassas*, 185.

²⁸⁹Zenzen, 41, 43.

Manassas, and for other purposes.” The Act established the boundaries of the park and stated that they would not exceed 1,400 acres.²⁹⁰ The park’s boundaries were increased in 1980 to include more lands associated with the Second Battle of Manassas and were not to exceed 4,525 acres. This Act established conditions of acquiring additional property within the park’s boundaries and the rights of the property owners.²⁹¹

The Manassas National Battlefield Park Amendments of 1988 added, “boundaries of the park shall include the area, comprising approximately 600 acres, which is south of U.S. Route 29, north of Interstate Route 66, east of Route 705, and west of Route 622.” This act also provided for the preservation of historic views from within the park and authorized funding for studying and implementing the relocation of Routes 29 and 234.²⁹²

A re-enactment of the First Battle of Manassas was held at Manassas National Battlefield Park on the centennial of the event in July 1961. Over three days 120,000 people attended the event including a dress rehearsal on the Friday before the July 21st weekend. Temperatures were in the 90s and there were traffic jams getting to and from the Park. Overall, the event received positive press, but some detractors felt that the event was more of a celebration rather than a commemoration of a serious moment in United States history. As a result of the controversy, the National Park Service chose to not have any more re-enactments on grounds under their protection in the future.²⁹³ Anniversaries are still commemorated but now the emphasis is on units of re-enactors drilling or musket firing demonstrations and other interpretations of Civil War life without simulated combat.

²⁹⁰Public Law 338, 83d Congress, Chapter 153, 2d Session, H.R. 5529. Reprinted in Zenzen. *Battling for Manassas*, Appendix II.

²⁹¹Public Law 96-442, 96th Congress, 2 Session. Reprinted in Zenzen. *Battling for Manassas*, Appendix III.

²⁹²Public Law 100-647, 100th Congress, 2d Session. Reprinted in Zenzen. *Battling for Manassas*, Appendix IV.

²⁹³Zenzen. *Battling for Manassas*, 69-71.

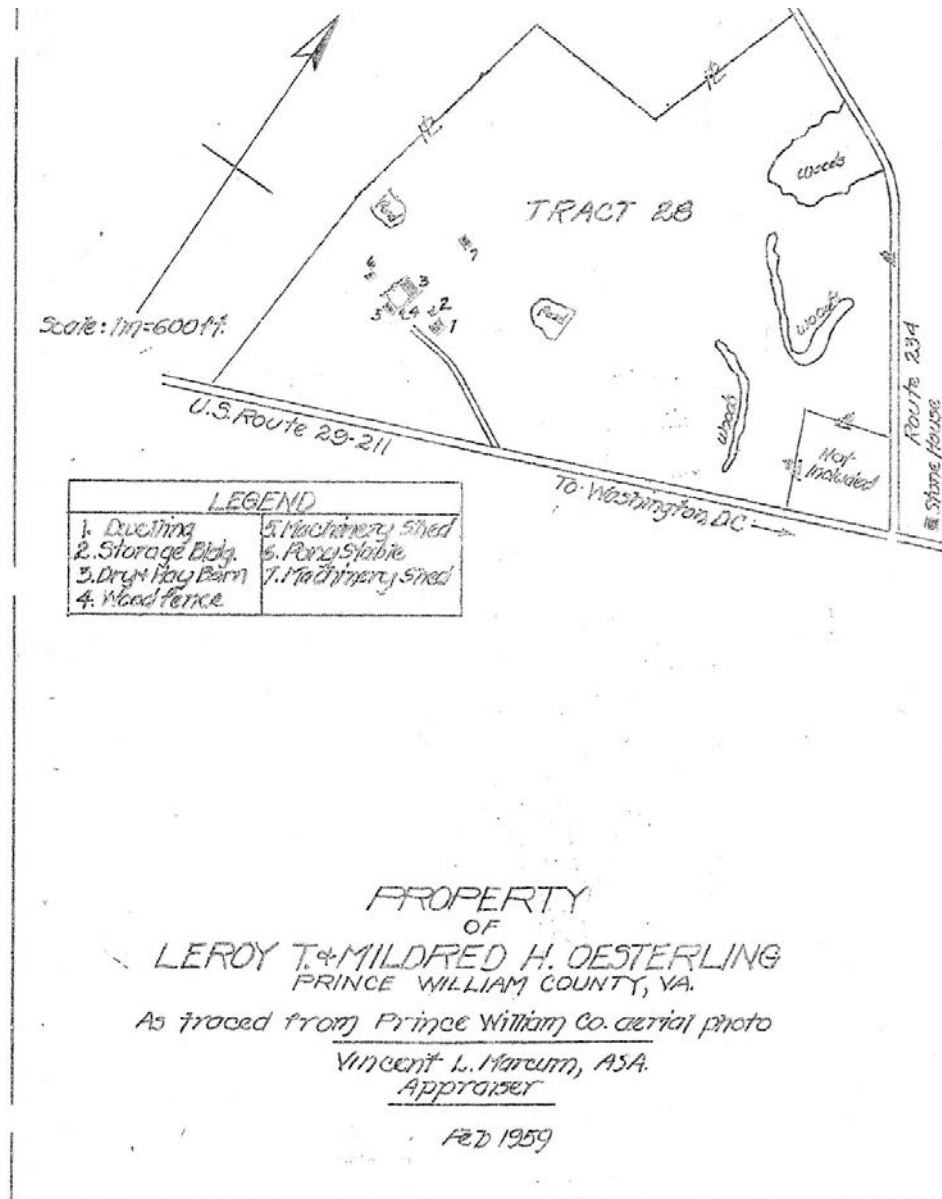


Figure 9: Plat of the Oesterling property in 1959 shortly before it became part of Manassas National Battlefield Park.

Rosefield under the National Park Service

The National Park Service acquired the Rosefield lands in 1960 with land acquisition funds. The deed was filed on July 12, 1960.²⁹⁴ Leroy and Mildred Oesterling were the last private owners of the 102.4 acres. The Oesterlings had purchased the property in 1954 and were leasing it to tenants Charles and Leona Goode who managed thirty head of beef cattle.²⁹⁵

Two different valuations and assessments of the property were done. One was by a real estate company, R.L. Kane of Alexandria, Virginia. It listed the improvements to the house since the Oesterlings had purchased it in 1954, including hot water baseboard heat, a half bath on the main floor, and aluminum storm windows and screens. In addition the house had electricity and telephone, but was serviced by a septic tank system and well, as water lines had not yet reached the property.²⁹⁶

The property's irregular shape was recorded as having "2600 feet of frontage on U.S. Route 29-211 and approximately 1900 feet of frontage on Virginia Highway 234. The land is all cleared except for approximately three (3) acres of woods." The report also noted the two stocked ponds on the property.²⁹⁷

The appraiser described the dwelling as a "two story farm house, stone foundation, metal shingle roof, aluminum storm windows and screens. The house contains living room, dining room, kitchen, enclosed porch, or den and one half bath on first floor and three bedrooms and bath on second floor." The report noted that the house was in "good physical condition. There is a small storage cellar under house and utility room off of the kitchen."²⁹⁸

V. L. Marcum, A.S.A. of Arlington, Virginia, completed the second valuation and appraisal in February of 1959. They found the neighborhood to be occupied by those involved in general farming, raising cattle and commuters working in Washington, D.C. The acreage of rolling hills was cleared except for fourteen acres on the eastern part of the property near Route 234. This number is in contrast to the Kane report that noted

²⁹⁴PWC Deed Book 258:415. The property was identified as tract No. 28.

²⁹⁵Marcum Report 16 February 1959. On file at Manassas National Battlefield Park Headquarters.

²⁹⁶Report from R.L. Kane, Inc. [n.d.] on Tract No. 28 owned by Leroy Oesterling. Headquarters, Manassas National Battlefield Park, Manassas, Va.

²⁹⁷Ibid.

²⁹⁸Ibid.

there were only three acres of woods. The property was surrounded by “considerable boundary and cross barbed wire fencing.”²⁹⁹

This valuation provided a detailed description of the house:

A two-story frame dwelling constructed in a “L” shape. The front section is 18’6 x 36’ and the rear wing is 15’6 x 16’3.” There is a two story section between the wings and in the rear, 7’x7’3.” The two-story part averages 22 feet in height. There is a front porch, 8’x34,’ a rear porch 7’x9’ and an enclosed side porch 11’x12.’ The house contains 6 rooms and 2 baths, and a small cellar 13’x14’6.” There is an entrance hall on the first floor and a small utility room that contains an oil hot water furnace for supplying hot water to baseboard radiators. The exterior features are: stone foundation; weatherboard siding; double hung windows with aluminum storm windows and screens; gable roof covered with metal shingles (crimped metal on porches); galvanized metal gutters and downspouts. The interior features are: pine floors (kitchen covered with linoleum); walls gypsum board (beaded T&G pine in kitchen, Celetex blocks in living room and one upstairs bed room and gypsum board in the remainder of the house); baths have plastic tile walls and asphalt tile floors. The cellar has rock walls; earth floor; 6’6” headroom and contains a 52-gallon electric hot water heater.

There were also a number of support buildings on the property:

A storage building was of frame construction on cinderblocks with vertical pine siding with battens, and a metal gable roof. It was unfinished inside with a wood floor and measured 8’4” x 10’4.”

A dry barn and hay barn was originally two frame buildings with vertical pine siding; one 18x18x6 and the other 18’6” x 30’. A frame shed was constructed to join the two buildings into one. They had concrete foundations and an earthen floor. The building was covered with corrugated galvanized metal. A fence surrounded this barn and its yard with a metal water trough contained within it.

There were two machinery sheds on the property. The first with dimensions of 20’ x 40’ had an open front and was covered with corrugated galvanized metal. The second shed was also a frame structure but measured 26’5” x 45’. The roof was supported by twelve telephone poles that formed four stalls.

A pony stable of frame construction measured 12’ x 6’ and stood on rock piers with a gable roof. The roof and siding were also of corrugated galvanized metal.

²⁹⁹Report of V.L. Marcum, 16 February 1959. On file at Manassas National Battlefield Park Headquarters.

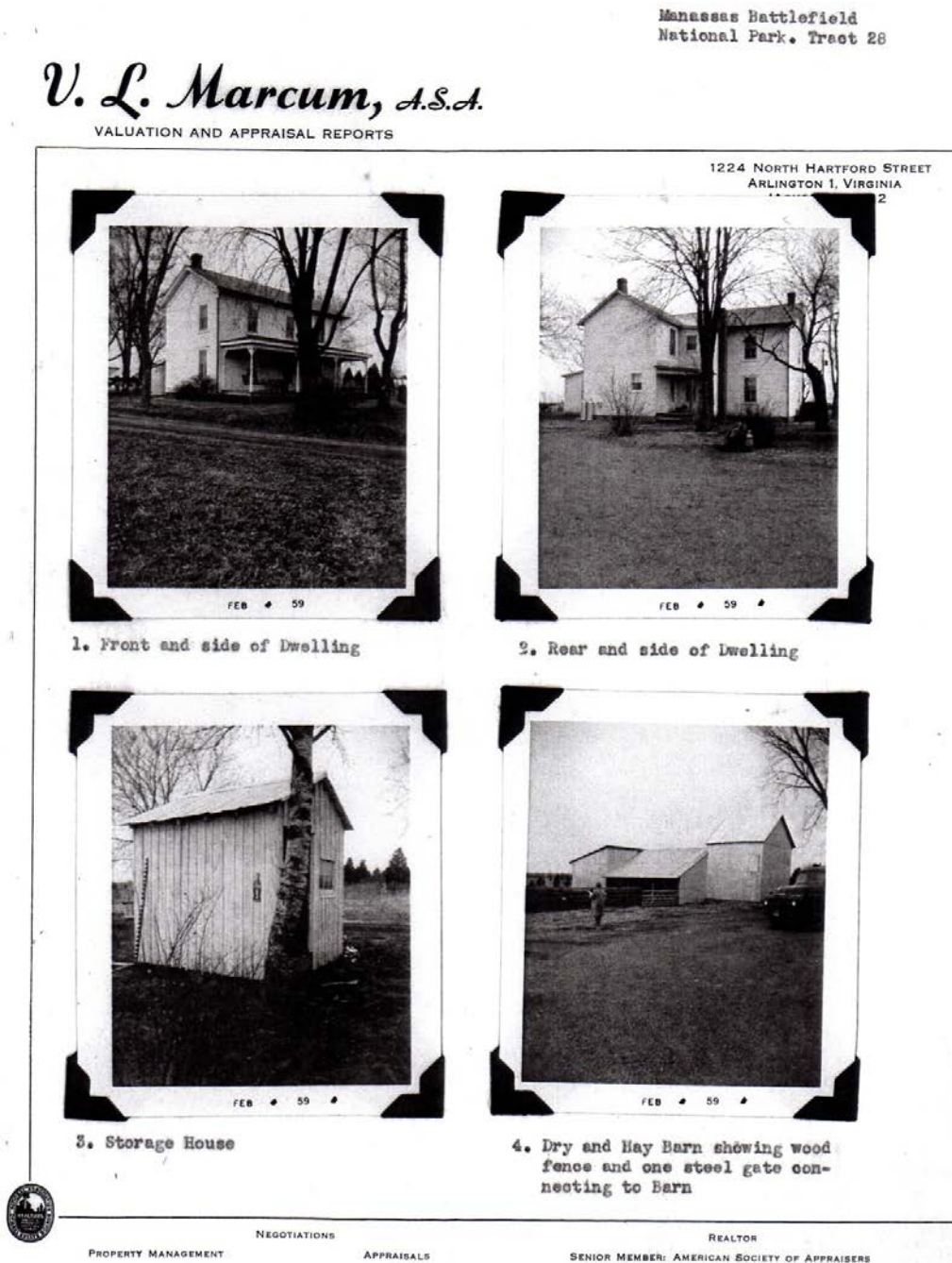


Figure 10: Photographs of Rosefield taken in 1959. They include images of the front and back of the house, a storage shed and a barn.

Manassas Battlefield
National Park, Tract 28

V. L. Marcum, A.S.A.
VALUATION AND APPRAISAL REPORTS

1224 NORTH HARTFORD ST
ARLINGTON 1, VIRGINIA
JACKSON 4-6222



5. Front and side of Machinery Shed.



6. Pony Stable



7. Front and side of 2nd Machinery Shed



8. View of Pond nearest Route 29-211



PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

NEGOTIATIONS

APPRAISALS

REALTOR

SENIOR MEMBER, AMERICAN SOCIETY OF APPRAISERS

Figure 11: Photographs of Rosefield taken in 1959. The images are of two machinery sheds, a pony stable, and one of the two ponds on the property.

National Register Status for Manassas Battlefield Park

Manassas National Battlefield Park achieved National Register status in 1972. The statement of significance noted the park's importance as the scene of the Civil War battles of First Manassas on July 21, 1861 and Second Manassas on August 28 through 30 of 1862. Contributing structures were the Lucinda Dogan house, the monuments of First and Second Manassas, the Stone House, Sudley Post Office and the Stone Bridge.³⁰⁰ In 2005 an amended form was filed with the amended historic district being listed on January 18, 2006. It recognized the Manassas Battlefield Historic District. The registration includes information on existing structures as well as those that are no longer extant. Rosefield II is described as being built before 1878 with a physical structure:

Set on a stone foundation, the vernacular structure stands two-and-a-half stories in height with an overhanging side gable roof and interior end chimneys. It is three bays wide and one bay deep. The window openings, detailed with louvered metal shutters, hold 2/2 double-hung sashes. Contemporary casings with back banding surround the windows. A full-width front porch, supported by turned posts and square balusters, protects the central entry. The door, paneled with lights, is finished with sidelights and wide casings. The interior of the main block has a central passage, single-pile plan with a straight-flight stair leading to the two rooms of the second floor. Giving the building its current L-shaped plan, the two-story rear addition houses the bathroom facilities, kitchen and another bedroom. Owned by the National Park Service, the building presently provides office space.³⁰¹

An archaeological survey done in 1982 noted that the house, facing Warrenton Turnpike to the southeast "is flanked by fields except to the immediate northeast, where there is an orchard with a manicured appearance. A metal barn, wooden shed, and a concrete foundation occupy the rear, northwest of the house. The area was surveyed, but no buried features could be seen. A vegetable garden had recently been plowed but no artifacts of significance or charcoal indicating a fire were observed." The survey also noted "the existing house has a cellar entered through a trap door on the porch. It appears on simple visual inspection to be similar in size and construction to the cellars at Pittsylvania and Van Pelt. It is quite likely that the present house was built over the

³⁰⁰United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service. National Register of Historic Places Inventory – Nomination Form. Manassas National Battlefield Park, 1972.

³⁰¹United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service. National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. Manassas Battlefield Historic District (Amended and Boundary Expansion), 2005.

remains of Rosefield and that the physical remains of the latter have either been lost or are inaccessible.”³⁰²

After its acquisition by the National Park Service, Rosefield served as a home to Manassas National Battlefield Park Superintendents Varnado, Swain and Apschnikat. It was then converted to use as offices and continues to be used in that capacity to the present time.

³⁰²Thomas E. McGarry. Manassas National Battlefield Park, Virginia Archaeological Survey. December, 1982. National Capital Team, Denver Service Center, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

Rosefield Today

A site visit was made to Rosefield in July 2011:

The original structure appears to have been a two over two-room farmhouse with two rooms on the main floor and two above. The façade is symmetrical with a window over the front door. The current door has sidelights. Metal siding and new windows have been installed throughout. There is a front porch going the length of the house facing south and a rear/side porch to the northwest. In this porch is a trap door providing access to the basement. A shed addition to the east has a cement slab floor and concrete foundation with an exterior door to the south.



Figure 12: Detail of mortar in cellar wall that may date from the eighteenth century.

The cellar consists of one small room and is situated under the kitchen. The walls are constructed of fieldstone and red sandstone. However, interspersed throughout the construction are what appear to be eighteenth-century brick held together with mortar that on visual inspection could be from that period. Testing would need to be done to more closely date the mortar. There is a large limestone slab visible under the foundation of the house proper and additional smaller slabs support the foundation.

Inside the house the position of the stairway appears to have been altered when the addition was constructed. An additional room was added on the first floor (now a kitchen) and an additional bedroom on the second floor and bathrooms on each floor also. The extension may have been there originally as a kitchen with the second floor added later. Off the kitchen there is a small utility room with a hot water heater. In this room there is a window into the main floor stair hall (now covered over) is visible as well as the original clapboard siding painted white with dark green paint on the window frame. In a closet under the stairs there is an interior and a window to the north of the house that have been covered up. There is evidence on the baseboard of the southeast room of infill when the original door was covered over.

The attic is accessed through a trap door in the upstairs addition. The original wood roof shingles are still extant in some portions. The new roof was raised and put in place over the original roof.³⁰³

³⁰³Site visit to Rosefield 8 July 2011. Present were Ray Brown and Joe Phillips of Manassas National Battlefield Park, Dr. T.B. McCord, and Gwendolyn K. White. A second visit was made 19 August 2011 with Susan Wiard to further examine and photograph the bricks and mortar in the cellar.



Figure 13: Shingles from an earlier roof are encased in the current attic.

The upstairs hall has an unusual configuration with a very narrow access between the banister and wall to the front center window. The bedrooms were probably originally accessed from doors on either side of this window (the wall sounds hollow at this location as compared to the rest of the wall in the hallway). The stair may have made a turn halfway up and ended near the front window and bedroom doors but this would still have left an empty space in the back half of the stair well.

The four original rooms have decorative trim around the windows – bull's eye medallion within a square.



Figure 14: Window frame with original paint now encased in the utility room.

Appendix A

Genealogy of Families Associated with Rosefield*

Carter

Robert “King” Carter (1663-1732)

m. Judith Armistead (1665-1699)

1. Sarah (1690 – infant)
2. Elizabeth (1692-1734) m. Burwell of Fairfield and Dr. Nicholas
3. Judith (1694 – infant)
4. Judith (1695-1750) m. Mann Page of Rosewell
5. John (1696-1742) m. Elizabeth Hill of Shirley

m. Elizabeth Landon Willis (1683/84-1719)

1. Anne (1702-1734) m. B. Harrison IV of Berkeley
2. Robert (1704-1732)
3. Sarah (1704-1705)
4. Betty (1705-1706)
5. Charles (1707-1764)
6. Ludlow (1709-infant)
7. Landon (1710-1778)
8. Mary (1712-1736) m. Geo. Braxton II
9. Lucy (1715-1763) m. Henry Fitzhugh and Nathaniel Harrison II of
Brandon
10. George (1718-1742)

*Appendix A includes genealogical information for some of the families that owned or lived at Rosefield in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The information was taken from numerous sources including census, family files at various repositories, ancestry.com and court records. It is accurate as far as the information available has allowed. It is not intended to be all-inclusive, but rather as a guide to understanding the owners and subsequent heirs of the property.

Carter

Landon Carter of Sabine Hall (1710-1778)

m. Elizabeth Wormeley 16 Nov 1732

1. Robert Wormeley
2. Landon of Pittsylvania 1738-1801
3. John of Sudley 1739-1789; m. Janet Hamilton, daughter of Gilbert
Hamilton of Richmond County – children included Landon Carter
of Woodland
4. Elizabeth d. 1740

m. Maria Byrd

1. Maria Carter m. Robert Beverly of Blandfield

m. Elizabeth Beale

1. Judith m. Reuben Beale
2. Lucy m. William Colston

Carter

Landon Carter of Pittsylvania (1738-1801)

Landon and Judith married sometime between 1758 and 1760

- m. Judith Fauntleroy (dau. of Col. Moore Fauntleroy d. 1790, Richmond County)
 - 1. Wormeley Carter of Rosefield b. about 1760 – d. 1815
 - 2. John Fauntleroy
 - 3. Moore Fauntleroy m. Judith Evans
 - 4. Charles Landon
 - 5. Elizabeth d. before 30 May 1825
 - 6. Margaret m. Robert Hone
 - 7. Judith (1777-1861) m. Dr. Isaac Henry (1770-1829)
 - 8. Mary – already married to John Bruce when LCII died in 1801 w/5 children: Landon, John, Elizabeth, Judith, and Eleandra

Landon, infant child of Landon and Judith, died in 1770 per L.C. Diary, 23 July 1770

Judith Carter married Isaac Henry a surgeon's mate on the USS Constellation. This Judith Carter Henry was killed at her home during the battle of First Manassas, 1861

- 1. John (died after War leaving 3 orphans)
 - a. Ida Landon
 - b. Arthur Lee II
 - c. Hugh
- 2. Landon
- 3. Ellen (born ca. 1809 d. 1888)
- 3. Hugh (1812-1898) Taught school in Alexandria per 1882 letter

Carter

Wormeley Carter of Rosefield b. about 1760 - d. 8 April 1815

Sarah (Sally) Edwards m. 1787

1. Ann F. Carter b. 1788 m. Robert Hamilton
2. Landon (1792-1849) m. Emily H. Carter born ca. 1796
 - a) Sarah Jane b. about 1822 - d. 1892 at Pittsylvania
 - b) Edwin L.
 - c) Virginia M.
3. Wormeley b. 16 Feb. 1794 d. 16 Sep. 1823 m. Lucinda Alexander
4. Richard Henry. m. Evelyn Price of Chickahominy
5. Addison Bowles b. 1803 m. Lucy Burwell
6. Thomas Ottoway Carter b. 1806 m. Judith Carter of Fauquier 1837
7. Lucy m. Charles Ewell
8. Judith – never married - died 1832
9. Katherine (Kitty) (d. about 1820?)

Hamilton

Robert H. Hamilton b. 1781 - d. Mar. 1835 (born Richmond County, Virginia)

Married 12 March 1812

Ann Fauntleroy Carter born 1788 (dau. of Wormeley) died in Missouri Feb 1856

1. Susan Ann 1815-1832
2. Sarah Carter (Sally) 1816-1851 m. Robert Tyler after August 1844
3. Robert Wormeley b. 1818 died 1864
4. Lucy Landon b. 1820 never married
5. Charles Beale 1824-1838
6. Richard Henry b. 1828
7. Mary Elizabeth (or Mary Eliza) 1830-1904 m. William A. Carter
8. Edward Allen b. 1833 d. in Missouri Nov. 1912 (nickname Deasy)

Notes: Mary, Edward, and Richard were listed as “orphans” at Robert Hamilton’s death in 1835. Elder brother Robert W. Hamilton was guardian and then later William A. Carter and Alfred Ball. Mary later married William A. Carter. See guardian bond of March 4, 1844.

*Edward Corson, who donated family papers to MNBP Library, was the grandson of Mary Elizabeth Hamilton and William A. Carter.

Robert Hamilton’s parents were John Tayloe Hamilton and Susannah Beale

Ann Hamilton Edwards – wife of Richard Edwards of Richmond County was the mother of Sarah Edwards, wife of Wormeley Carter (per Hamilton genealogy – RELIC vertical file)

Dogan

Henry Dogan (1759-1823) m. Mary Wheeler (1764-1832)

1. William Henry Dogan (11 Nov 1795 – 4 May 1854)
m. Jane A. 18 Dec 1838. She died 13 Oct. 1839
 1. Mary Jane b. 1 Oct 1839 - 1890
- m. Lucinda M. Lewis 7 Apr 1842 (b. 1817 – d. 17 Jul 1910)
 1. Ann M. Dogan b. 1843 d. before 1862 of typhoid
 2. Catherine E. Dogan b. 1845 d. before 1862 of typhoid
 3. William H. Dogan (1847 – 1899) m. Mary Benson 1882
 4. Allen T. Dogan b. 1848. Deceased by 1860?
 5. John Franklin (1849 – 1923) m. May Leachman
 6. Harriet Eliza b. 1851
 6. Medora Lewis b. 1852
 7. Henry Ester or Esther Henry 1854-1921)
1. John Drummond Dogan (1803-1875)
m. Anna Maria L. Bates (1808-1879?) of Fairfax on 16 Nov 1830
by the Rev. Jesse Weems (from Alex Newspaper,
Pippinger)

No known children

Notes: Perhaps John and Anna lived with William Dogan and daughter Mary Jane after his first wife died or took care of the child for him.

Lucinda was the daughter of William Lewis

John D. Dogan inherited land from his father in 1824.

Mary Wheeler Dogan was the daughter of Drummond Wheeler and Jean Wesley of Fairfax County, Virginia.

Cross

John Cross (1814-1890)

m. Elizabeth (1812-1886)

1. Tamsin
2. Susan b. 1837
3. Abba (Abigail) B. Poland b. 1840
4. John P. b. 1841
5. Hamilton b. 1843
6. W.R.E. (Eben) b. 1846
7. Barzilla b. 1848
8. Atossa A. (1850-1905)
9. Golia or Adonia F. (wife of Charles Cross)
10. Rinaldo T. b. 1855

Oldest son John P. Cross b. about 1840 – m. Emma b. about 1852

J. P. Cross occupation in 1870 – farm laborer. In a separate household from his father.

John P. and Hamilton J. served in Company A, 4th Virginia Cavalry. Company formed after John Brown Raid as a militia. They drilled at Brentsville once a month under Captain W.W. Thornton. Info from p. 1, Kenneth L. Stiles. *4th Virginia Cavalry*, Lynchburg, Va: H.E. Howard, Inc., 1985.

John P. enlisted March 19, 1862 at Stafford. Wounded in left side May 7, 1864 at Spotsylvania Courthouse. Paroled April, 1865. Entered Soldier's Home in Richmond in August 1911 at age 70.

Hamilton J. enlisted Sept. 20, 1862 at Stryders Mill. Paroled April 1865. Died March 11, 1930 at age 87.

Both Hamilton and John P. applied for veteran pensions: In 1907, Hamilton was in Fairfax working as a farmer; John living at Catharpin was employed as a carpenter

Appendix B: Rosefield Chain of Title

1724-1729: Robert Carter patents lands in Northern Neck Proprietary

1732: Landon Carter inherits Bull Run

1778: Landon Carter, Jr. inherits Bull Run

1793: April 2 – Landon Carter to Wormeley Carter for 5 shillings “a certain tract of land whereon he has for some time resided containing six hundred acres lying about his said Wormeley’s Dwelling House.” Sparacio Deed Abstracts 1784-1794, 70 (PWC Deed Book Y: 217 in original deed book 1791-1796).

1801 Wormeley Carter inherits the balance of Landon Carter’s Bull Run property

1815: April 8 – Ann F. Carter Hamilton, Robert Hamilton, and Landon Carter, executors of Wormeley Carter must appear at court in Dumfries to make a division of Wormeley Carter’s property PWC Land Causes 1805-1849; Court Records 1731-1870 p. 65-70.

1843: June 5 – Ann F. Hamilton and Sarah C. Hamilton

Sold to Ann H. Edwards and Lucy L. Hamilton a “certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in the county of Prince William known as Rosefield the same being the land which Robert Hamilton, deceased, died seized and possessed of also the right title and interest of the said Ann F. and Sarah C. Hamilton in and of the household and kitchen furniture and our old slave Caty. PWC Deed Book 18:2

1843: October 2 – Sold to Ann Hamilton 118 acres for \$324.00 formerly belonging to late Judith Carter (3 June 1843) PWC Deed Book 18:75

1843: October 2 – First of July 1843 between Ann F. Hamilton and John Dogan for \$540 paid by Dogan for 118 acres formerly belonging to the late Judith Carter. PWC Deed Book 18:76

1845: September 18 - 54 acres for \$540 to Dogan by Ann F. Hamilton, Ann H. Edwards, and Lucy Hamilton remaining portion of land laid off to Ann F. Hamilton of her father Wormeley Carter. PWC Deed Book 19:55-56

1878: 20 May – E.E. Meredith Commissioner of the Circuit Court and John B. Smoot Administrator of D.F. Hooe deceased all of the land lying near Groveton and known as the John D. Dogan tract of land containing three hundred acres together with the interest

in a tract of one hundred and fourteen acres known as the Dower of Mrs. Dogan the widow of John Dogan, decd. PWC Deed Book 31:459.

1882: January – Deed between John B. Smoot, Administrator of David Hooe and John Cross for \$2000 for the land lying near Groveton known as the John D. Dogan tract surveyed by E.E. Meredith (414 acres). PWC Deed Book 33:342

1890: July 31 – Between William R.E. and Araminta Cross, Rinaldo and Estelle Cross and John P. Cross under the will of John Cross part of Rosefield farm. Division of land:
Wm. R.E. Cross – Lot 1 – 102 acres
Rinaldo Cross – Lot 3 – 118 acres
John P. Cross – Lot 2 – 118 Acres (with house?) Deed Book 39:558-562

Cross Lot #1:

1890: William R.E. Cross 102 acres

1890: John P. Cross to W.R.E. Cross 20 acres

1912: W.R.E. Cross estate to Thomas Moss 102 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres

1912: Mrs. W.R.E. Cross retains 19 acres, unimproved

1919: Mrs. W.R.E. Cross to John F. Dogan 10 acres

1919: Thomas Moss to J.L. Sowers 103 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres

1919: Thomas Moss to Annie Haislip 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres

1954: Frances Sowers (Mrs. J.L.) to Leroy Oesterling. PWC Deed Book 172:386

1960: Leroy Oesterling to U.S. Department of the Interior. PWC Deed Book 285:415

Cross Lot #2:

1890: John P. Cross 118 acres

1890: John P. Cross to W.R.E. Cross 20 acres (pays tax on 97 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres in 1891)

1895: July 15 – between John P. Cross and Wesley H. Rollins \$700 for land adjoining W.H. Dogan, W.R.E. Cross and others being part of the real estate left him by will of John Cross beginning at RT Cross land (now Hufty's). PWC Deed Book 44:93-94

1933: Wesley Rollins estate to Walter Sadd. PWC Deed Book 93:97

Cross Lot #3:

1890: Barzillia Cross 118 acres (because of estate issues deed transfer is delayed)

1902: Barzillia Cross pays tax on 186 acres

1904: B.R. Cross to Erasmus turner 82 ½ acres/B.R. Cross left with 94 acres

1913: Erasmus Turner to W.H. Spencer 2 acres

1917: B.R. Cross to Jno. M. Caton/Cross pays tax on 54 acres

1926: R.R. Cross pays tax on 48 acres

1927: B.R. Cross and his heirs on land until at least 1927

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