

Wilson, Donald L

From: Wilson, Donald L
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2000 5:19 PM
To: 'JCunard@erols.com'
Subject: Bel Air

Jan - Here, hurriedly, is what I have been able to find out about Bel Air:

1782 personal property tax list: Jesse Ewell was taxed on 5 black tithes (over age 16), 1 horse, 4 cattle.

In 1800 Jesse Ewell Senior was taxed on 9 slaves over 16 and 2 slaves between 12 and 16. He also owned 6 horses and a stage coach.

Jesse Ewell himself died in 1806 and an inventory of his estate was filed in Will Book I (eye), p. 152-154. It appraises all his farm equipment, livestock, slaves and furniture. It names 18 slaves. The inventory would be a useful guide to what the farm looked like at that time. Close study of it could determine the probable number of buildings. When his widow Charlotte died in 1823, another inventory was filed. I have not had a chance to see that yet.

In 1810 (census), Jesse Ewell Sr.'s household had 6 whites and 13 slaves.

In 1820 (census), Jesse Ewell's household had 14 whites and 18 slaves.

In 1830 (census), Jesse Ewell's household had 10 whites and 16 slaves.

1840 land tax book, Jesse Davis, residing in King George County, owned 438 ac. "Bellair", 12 mi. E. of courthouse (Brentsville).

Also shown on 1846, 1847, 1848 lists. Have not determined who he had maintaining the property, whether slaves were living on it and working it at that time.

Deed Book 20, p. 86.

In 1848, Chapman Lee and James H. Robbins bought Belle Air (sic) from William W. Wallace trustee [in the suit of Gibson v. Hunton, administrator of Davis etc. in PWC, by decree -- that suit may give details about the state of the plantation in the 1840s]. It was purchased at auction for \$1501. Formerly belonged to Jesse Ewell deceased, estimated 438 acres and Keif tract est. 236 acres. Bel Air boundaries as described in deed 27 March 1825 between John Gibson and John Macrae commissioners and Henry C. Slade, recorded in PWC. [Have not seen this deed. Slade was owner of the property from 1825 until Jesse Davis bought it.]

In 1849, 1850, Chapman Lee is shown as owning Bell Air on tax list.

1850 personal property tax list: Lee, Chapman, 1 white tithable, 2 horses, hraner, 1 watch, 67 1/2 tax. (No slaves.)

1850 census: #969. Lee, Chapman, age 62, farmer, b. in Conn. with wife Lora, 50, 2 sons; also Horace Bagley, 40 and wife and daughter. (Probably inlaws). Also Alfred Free, age 20, a black male, born in Virginia.

By 1860 the Lee family is gone from Bel Air (census). Have not yet traced change in title.

During the time the Ewell family owned Bel Air (1740s-1825), number of slaves ranged from 5 to 18. There seem to be several family groups of slaves, suggesting several cabins for them. **There are likely to have been a half-dozen other small outbuildings associated with the plantation, including a barn, a stable for horses and stagecoach, kitchen, laundry, smokehouse, etc.** "Sully" may be a plantation that could be referred to, being similar in size and time period.

Some of the other legal documents mentioned above might throw additional light on the layout of the farm. Am sorry but have not found any plat yet that shows the exact location of any of the buildings. Just as at Sully and Mount Vernon, most of the out buildings will probably be within a 100 yard radius of the house. Slave cabins could perhaps be located further away, but they would need to be reachable within 5 minutes from the main house.

Hope this helps you out this evening.

Sincerely,

Donald L. Wilson, Virginia Librarian
Ruth E. Lloyd Information Center for Genealogy and Local History (RELIC)
Prince William Public Library System
Bull Run Regional Library, 8051 Ashton Avenue
Manassas, VA 20109-2892
(703) 792-4540
www.pwcgov.org/library/services/relic

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Sepe Ewell Gents. Inventory

In Obedience to an order of the Worshipful Court of Prince William County, We the Subscribers being first duly Sworn have appraised the property of Sepe Ewell Esq^r deceased as follows.

PWC
 Will Book
 I, p. 152-4

	Colts.	Cents		
One large Sow & 12 young pigs	34	"	One horse D ^o	\$18 "
One yoke of Oxen	50	"	Five Yearlings	15 "
Four Milch Cows	50	"	One riding Carriage & harness	50 "
Four Small ditto	40	"	One Barshare plow	2 50
Four heifers	45	"	Three Shovel do.	1 50
One Cow	14	"	Two plows & four Coulters	5 "
One Small Stear	7	"	Four pt. harnes three pt. chains	7 "
Four Small heifers	28	"	four hick Collars	66
One Stear Yearling	4	50	One iron dong fork	50
Eight calves	12	"	Two Malleso three rubber hoes	4 "
22 head of old Sheep	44	"	Six hoes	75
22 lambs	33	"	Six saws	6 75
two young Stears	24	"	one broad axe	1 75
one Cat	15	"	one foot axes	50
			Five Swingle trees	3 "
			one whip saw	2 "
			one cross cut d ^o	5 "
			one do horse	5 "
				\$530.41

Sept. Lovell's Inventory of Goods

One barrel D ^o	40	Three iron pot racks	\$ 3
One boy Moore	50	one frying pan	25
One Man Slave Tom	200	one wine Pipe	1
One boy Sandy	200	Four tight barrels	2 75
One D ^o Addison	280	Two open 2 ^d small kegs	1 25
One young man Daniel	300	One Wealt tubb	75
One D ^o Denis	300	Parcel of bottles	25
One Small boy Amsted	115	One barrel Honey tubb	2
One Old Man Jim	120	half dozen pewter plates	1 50
One D ^o George	133 25	Dozen old d ^o	2
One Woman Frank	150	Iron pan & Shaver	50
One Small Girl Sylla	120	Earthenware	2 50
One D ^o Harrot	150	One Sieve	1 25
One Woman free	200	Two old Tubbs	50
One Small Girl Eleonor	100	Two butter pots & tin pan	62
One D ^o Sophia	65	Three Chamber pots	50
One D ^o Cordelia	70	Two pair Sheep Shares	50
One young woman & Child	275	One Churn	50
One Girl Luce	175		<u>43.12</u>
a Quantity of Wool	12 50	One bed and furniture	40
One wheat fan	2	one dressing Table & Glass	5
Three Iron bound hoops	3	Bason & Bottle	75
Three old Mobly Stands	2	Six arm'd Charley	6
One Small Still	18	12 ^d Cheritree	20
Three old flax wheels	4	2 Arm'd D ^o	6
		el. l. & Sundries	26

Three old mobby stands
 One small Steer
 Three old flax wheels
 One loom and gears
 One bottom wheel
 One Auger and chisel
 One Boiler
 One Kettle
 One old oven and pot
 One Stone jug

Two Iron Chances
 Three small butter pots
 One Kettle
 One Iron pot and hooks
 One small oven
 One small Kettle
 One Spider Skillett
 Two small Tea kettles
 Parcel of old Iron
 Pair Stitards
 Two small Iron pots
 Pair flat irons
 One small oven
 Bandler Mould & Skillet
 Peisingy wooden Ware
 Pair fire dogs

2	Six armed Charles	0
18	12 ^d Cheritree	20
	2 Armed D ^o	6
4	Glases & Sundry	26
16	Part of 5 ^t chine	6
1	One small table	2 50
.. 50	One D ^o	2 50
2 50	2 pair live dogs	3 50
3	Shovel tongs and poker	2 50
1	Two Parcks	6
.. 50	Dozen Minior chare	10
\$ 3094.75	2 Dining tables	16
	One Desk & bookcase	25
2	Sundry in Beaufat	4
.. 75	One w ^h fire dogs	.. 75
2	Scindie Stand	2
2 50	11 fruit & piecing dishes	1 75
.. 75	Dozen and half plates	1 50
.. 25	one dozen D ^o	.. 75
.. 75	one small table	.. 75
2	2 Stone jarr	.. 75
.. 75	Humes history of England 11 vols	10
2	Voltares Works 21 Vol	10 50
1 75	Swifts Works 13 Vol	5 50
.. 75	Parcel of old french & latin books	4
.. 75	one old armed chain	1
1 75	1 Bed & furniture	30
.. 50	one Press	15
1	Four candlesticks	4
0		27

Jose Ewells Inventory & Court

One Walnut Table	\$ 4.
half dozen S ^d shares	2.
Three beds and furniture	60.
One Small table	.75
One Bedstead	1.50
One Small table	.75
One Bed and furniture	35.
One D ^o	28.
One Small table and dressing	1.50
Fire dogs and Fence	2.
One Bed and furniture	20.
One Small table and dressing	1.50
Sixteen Shotes	21.
one young Sow	1.50
Eighteen pigs	6.
	184.50
	3094.75
	530.41
	43.12
	270.
	4122.78

Total Amount
 Stephen Howison
 James Howison
 Peter Irons.

At a Court held for Prince William County Sept. 1st 1806
 This Inventory and Appraisement of the Estate of
 Jose Ewell gent. deceased was returned to the Court
 and ordered to be recorded.

Teste: W. Williams C. Clk.

hand and Seal! Therefore administration with the said
 Will annexed is granted to Edmund Brooke, he having
 taken the Oath prescribed by law and entered into and
 acknowledged a bond with Security according to Law.

Teste J. Williams Esq. Cur.

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One cow	14	"	Two plows & four bottles	3
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22 head of old Sheep	44	"	Six hoes	
22 lambs	33	"	Six axes	6
two young Stears	24	"	one broad ax	
one Ox Cart	15	"	one foot ax	
			Five Swingle trees	6
			one whip saw	3
			one cropper d ^o	2
			one do house	2
				\$50