

ROBINSON SAYS ANCESTORS BUILT SLAVE QUARTERS

Oswald Robinson, whose family has long lived in Prince William County, Tuesday told the Board of County Supervisors that his ancestors built the slave quarters on Sudley Manor Drive.

He said the 19th century stone out-building to the Ben Lomond manor was originally intended to be a kitchen. However, the architects planned the fireplaces too small and the building was used as a common sleeping quarters for the men slaves.

This information was passed to him from his father, who had heard it from his grandfather, said Robinson.

Interest in the building has been sparked since it must be moved to be preserved. It sits in the proposed driveway of the Westover Baptist Church. The church has offered it free of charge to any organization which wants to move it.

His grandfather's sons James and Alfred were slave stone masons and constructed the building. Robinson reported to the supervisors.

Historians have said that the building is significant since very few such sites have been investigated scientifically in Northern Virginia.

Robinson said that similar buildings are located near the Bull Run Quarry.

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