

**Veness, Beverly R**

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**From:** Jerole Nelson [jerole@cranberrymarketing.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 05, 2007 9:56 AM  
**To:** Veness, Beverly R  
**Subject:** RE: Research on your historic home from RELIC

Hi Beverly,  
Thanks for the info. I still need to dig up what I found too. Hopefully I ca get to that soon. Any info is great – especially the name.  
Might change our sign now!  
Thanks  
Jerole

Jerole Nelson  
571.248.6973  
cranberrymarketing.com

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**From:** Veness, Beverly R [mailto:bveness@pwcgov.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 02, 2007 4:55 PM  
**To:** Jerole@cranberrymarketing.com  
**Subject:** Research on your historic home from RELIC

Hello Jerole,

Sorry it has taken me so long to get back to you about your home on Hunton Lane. There was a chancery case involving your property and I had to wait to get the records to see if it would tell me anything – which it didn't so I began to look elsewhere.

Your home is a part of the Evergreen Farm owned by the Berkeleys. I believe we have determined that your home is known as "Mountain Rest." During the 1930s WPA Project, a report was done on Evergreen that talks about your stone home.

Only you can determine if this is your home but it sounds like it. "A mile to the north is the stone overseer's house, called "Mountain Rest." This has been enlarged since it was used for the original purpose, and was the former home of Mr. Lanier Berkeley. The walls are twenty inches thick, and there are some fine fireplaces here." We have proof that Mr. [Thomas] Lanier Berkeley (died 1935) who owned the property was married to Margaret Berkeley (died 1964) whom we find selling the property. Both of them are buried at St. Paul's Episcopal Church cemetery in Haymarket.

You can read the story available online at The Library of Virginia's webpage, under Historical Inventory [http://ajax.lva.lib.va.us/F/?func=file&file\\_name=find-b-clas15&local\\_base=CLAS15](http://ajax.lva.lib.va.us/F/?func=file&file_name=find-b-clas15&local_base=CLAS15) Just type in Evergreen "Prince William" to come up with the reports – there are several about Evergreen that will include your Mountain Rest.

Mr. Edmund Berkeley kept diaries, which may or may not speak about your home. We have a couple here and my boss tells me other diaries can be found at the Library of Virginia or Historical Society of Virginia in Richmond.

This doesn't give us a date for when you home was built. Further investigation is warranted. We're soon ready to close for the day so I'll end here. If we find more data about your house, I will create a Historic Site file for it. Let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,  
Beverly

**Beverly Veness, Library Assistant III**  
**Ruth E. Lloyd Information Center (RELIC)**  
**for Genealogy and Local History**



**Veness, Beverly R**

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**From:** Veness, Beverly R  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 27, 2007 9:13 AM  
**To:** Parham, Scott A.  
**Subject:** FW: Help with home on Evergreen Farm

Hi Scott,

I was wondering if you could pull a Chancery suit: The portion allotted to Margaret W. Berkeley by decree 6 April 1936 in chancery cause of Margaret W. Berkeley et al vs. Frances Elizabeth Belches et al. [note: widow is in Mississippi] DB 96, p.490

I'm hoping the chancery suit will tell us about the home in question. The owner thinks it dates to 1700s and our deed book trail isn't very helpful. I'm hoping it will talk about Evergreen mansion (on Bull Run Mountain) and the homes on that farm. (see further details below)

Appreciate your help. Thanks.

Bev

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**From:** pwcvabooks@comcast.net [mailto:pwcvabooks@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 25, 2007 5:34 PM  
**To:** Veness, Beverly R  
**Subject:** Re: Help with home on Evergreen Farm

Bev,

When you say "turn of the century" are we talking 19th or 20th? I know what the house looks like but have not been on the property. I have been told the property is old but -----

The house is just South of "Ravenswood" the old Bronaugh place. If it is from the 1700 it predates Evergreen. Do you know why they think the house dates to the 1700's ?

The chancery records are still at the court house - I'm sure Scott would pull this one for you.

Ron

----- Original message -----

From: "Veness, Beverly R" <bveness@pwcgov.org>  
 Hi Ron,

I had Charlotte investigate property this morning and we came to a standstill. I was asked by Jerole Nelson who lives at 15850 Hunton Lane, Haymarket, to check on how old her house is. She said it is from the 1700s.

Charlotte was able to trace it back, the property being part of Evergreen Farm. At first we thought that maybe it was an Overseer's house but according to our Historic Site file, that house is on Quarter Lane not Hunton Lane.

Here are Charlotte's notes.

James C. Watson from Margaret W. Berkeley (widow) 30 Jan 1939 DB 102, pg 60, 157 acres.

North portion of the farm known as Evergreen. The portion allotted to Margaret W. Berkeley by decree 6 April 1936 in chancery cause of Margaret W. Berkeley et al vs. Frances Elizabeth Belches et al. [note: widow is in Mississippi] DB 96, p.490

Belches & Berkeley – 707 acres of Evergreen conveyed by Edmund Berkeley to William N. Berkeley 28 Feb 1868, DB 26, p.562 less the 25 acres 1 rood (road?) of said tract conveyed by Thomas Lanier Berkeley et al to Walter Leonard 25 Jun 1924 DB 80, p.378 with 7 ¼ acres to Margaret W. Berkeley conveyed to her by William L. Heusen 11 April 1914, DB 65, p.123.

We're thinking the chancery case would give us details of land and homes on this tract of land. These would be at the courthouse, right?

We don't seem to find the house on the 1901 map (did you know this map is now on the Library of Congress's website in full color?)

Charlotte seems to think that the house isn't as old as this woman thinks, perhaps built around the turn of the century. Anyway, do you know of this house? Any further ideas of where we should go with our search? Any help/guidance would be appreciated. Thanks.

Bev