

1. SUBJECT: "Mt. Pleasant"

2. LOCATION: General: About 8 miles north of Culpeper Court House. Exact: 1 mile north of Rixeyville on 29, thence west (left) .2 mile on private road to house.

3. DATE: About 1804 (?)

4. OWNERS: Tract Number 1.

John Robinson	---- to ----
James Pendleton	---- to 1789
John Pendleton	1789 to 1804 (1)

Tract Number 2

James Pendleton	---- to 1793
James Bowie Pendleton & William Pendleton	1793 to 1807 (2)

Whole Tract

Richard Rixey, Jr.	1804 & 1807 to 1808 (3)
Elizabeth Morehead Rixey	1808 to 1821 (4)
William Rixey	1821 to 1862 (4)
Chas. Wm. Wellington Rixey	1862 to 1883 (5)
Robert R. Duncan	1883 to 1912 (6)
Lucy C. Duncan	1912 to 1926 (7)
Margaret D. Button, Rosa D. Parr	
J. Franklin Duncan & Lucy Russell	
Morrison	1926 to 1927 (8)
Estelle J. & Archie C. Ellett	1927 to 1937 (9)

5. DESCRIPTION: The original house that was here was burned and the present one erected in 1884 from the same bricks used before.

The old house was of brick with an addition in the rear of wood. Not much known to-day of its

appearance but it is said that the woodwork in the front hall and in the spacious rooms was very fine.

In the back yard one of the old buildings is still standing. This is a four room, frame house of two stories which measures about fifty feet by twenty feet. For further details of this house see form 3686 attached.

6. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: Richard Rixey, Jr. so far as is known, was the only son of Richard Riccia of Prince William County, and Elizabeth, his wife. The name was spelled "Ricksey" and "Rixey" both (10). He married Elizabeth Brixtraw Morehead of Fauquier and they lived in that county for many years. All of his children were born there.

That Richard Rixey, Jr. was an influential citizen of Fauquier County, is evident from the number of times he appears in the records of that county. He served in the Revolutionary Army, attaining the rank of captain. (11)

In 1804 Richard Rixey, Jr. came to Culpeper County where he bought land from John Pendleton, William Pendleton and Ann Mallory. He built the house in which he lived for the rest of his life, at "Mt. Pleasant", not far from the Hazel River,

then known as the Elk River. Here he died and we think, was buried, in 1808, leaving "Mt. Pleasant" to his wife, Elizabeth Morehead Rixey.

After the death of his mother, William Rixey became the owner of "Mt. Pleasant" under the provisions of his father's will. William, called Captain William, because of his rank in the State Militia, married Mary Lewis Brent of Maryland. There were twelve children of this union. (See family tree attached). After her death in 1850, although he was then seventy years old, he married Clarissa Parker, of Lynn, Massachusetts, a sister of the shoe manufacturers, Parker Brothers. Captain Rixey was a member of the Chestnut Fork Baptist Church. He was a large land owner and had many slaves. He left three farms to as many of his children and cash amounting to \$9,500.00 to each of the others. He did not leave "Mt. Pleasant" to any of them but directed that it be sold with five hundred acres of land about it. This was done and the place was purchased by his son, Charles William Wellington Rixey.

Charles William Rixey, (he dropped the Wellington), married Ann Fannie Settle and lived first at the village of Rixeyville. He already

owned 400 acres of land adjoining "Mt. Pleasant" when he bought the home place. He and his wife had ten children. (See family tree attached.)

Captain Duncan, the next owner of "Mt. Pleasant" was sheriff of Culpeper County. It was during his ownership that the house at "Mt. Pleasant" was destroyed by fire. He it was too who changed the name of the place to "Ellerslie".

Robert R. Duncan, generally known as Captain Duncan, because of his rank in the Confederate Army enlisted in 1861 in Company B, 6th, Virginia Cavalry. He was twice wounded, once at Manassas and once at Trevillian's. Here he was captured and was imprisoned in Fort Delaware, in 1864. He was a splendid horseman, a good shot and feared nothing.

In November of 1863, Captain Duncan was leading a small troop of men, about fifteen or twenty, scouting along the flank of General Meade's army. Not far from Stonehouse Mountain, on the Thornton Gap Turnpike, he came upon a picket posted. These men he captured and then knowing that the enemy would miss them and come to look for them, hid himself in a small piece of wood near Salem Church. Soon a band of Federal soldiers appeared moving down the pike. He waited until they had

passed and then charging them from the rear, captured many of them and scattered the rest. No sooner was this done than he found that there was another troop under Major Conger sent to help them and these were rapidly approaching. With his captured men and horses it would be hard to escape. However, he managed his small force so skillfully, first using them as mounted skirmishers and then charging into the advance guard of the column, that he got away, taking with him all he had captured and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. He himself did not lose a man. (12)

Captain Duncan was married twice. His first wife was Miss Kerfoot. Of this union there were three children, Blanche, Robert L. and Ada. His second wife was Lucy C. Browning and of this union there were four children, Maude, Rosa, Frank and Lucy Russell.

After the burning of the house at "Mt. Pleasant" Captain Duncan rebuilt, using the same brick that had been in the old house. This was in 1884. After his death, his wife lived on at "Ellerslie" with her daughter Lucy Russell, though part of the land was sold. And then at her death the house and what land was left were sold to the present owners, Estelle J. Ellett and Archie C. Ellett.

7. ART: Enclosed with this story are the coat of arms of the Riccia Family, the coat of arms of the Morehead Family, the family tree of Richard Rixey, Jr. the family tree of William Rixey, the family tree of Charles William Rixey and a plat of the land left to James Bowie Pendleton and William Pendleton by their father James Pendleton, which was a part of the tract known as "Mt. Pleasant".

8. SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

(1)	Deed Book	P	page	36
(2)	Will	"	D	93
(3)	Deed	"	Z	66
(4)	"	"	BB	362
(5)	Will	"	E	308
(6)	Deed	"	14	546
(7)	"	"	20	540
(8)	Will	"	5	155
(9)	"	"	9	60
(10)	Deed	"	80	300

These books are among the Culpeper County Records.

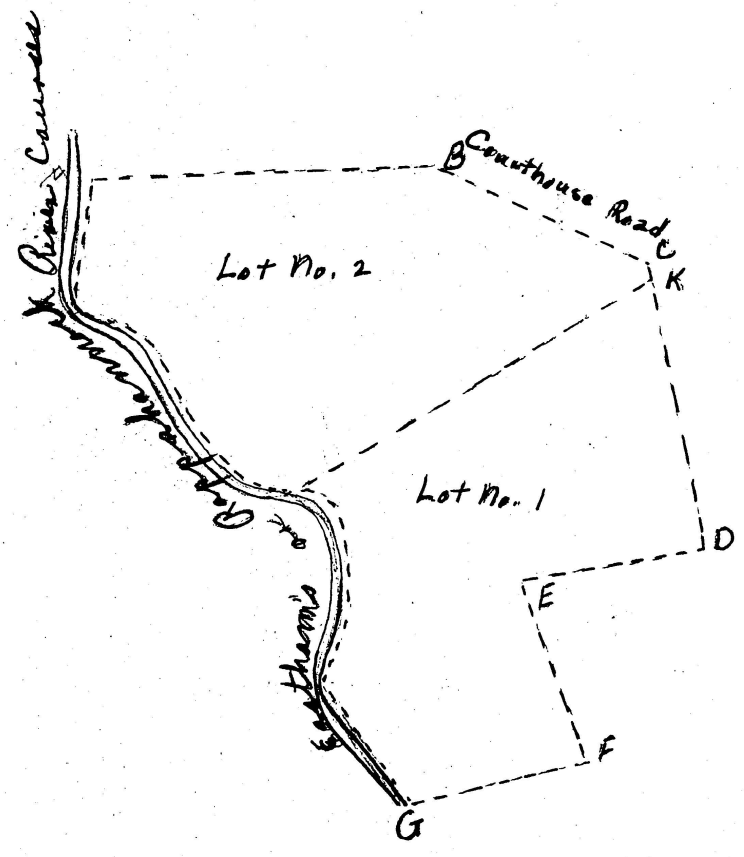
(10) Deed book P, pages 92 and 94, Prince William County Records.

(11) Pages 312, 320 & 457 Fauquier County Court Minute Book, 1773-1780.

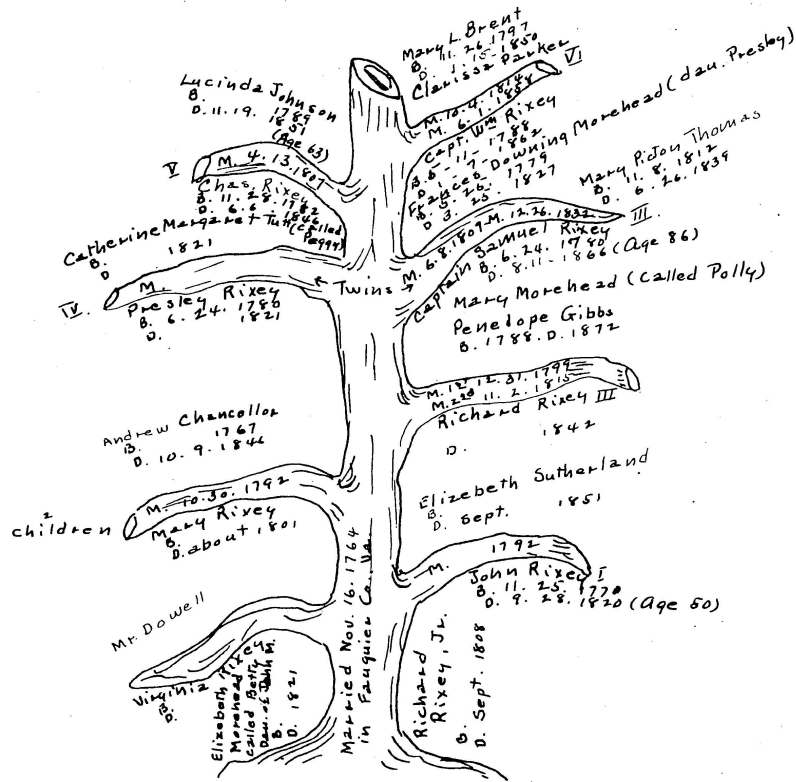
(12) Notes on Culpeper County, Dr. Slaughter's St. Mark's Parish, page 120.

This book was published by R. T. Green in 1900 and may be found at the library in Culpeper.

SUBJECT: "MT. PLEASANT"
DATE OF WRITE UP: OCTOBER 12, 1937
COUNTY: CULPEPER
NAME OF WORKER: MARGARET JEFFRIES



Division of James Pendleton's
Estate which was devised to
James Bowie Pendleton &
William Pendleton - 656 A.
- 1794



SUBJECT: "M. PLEASANT"
 DATE OF WRITE UP: OCTOBER 12, 1927
 COUNTY: CALIFORNIA
 NAME OF HOLDER: Margaret Jeffries