

Locust Ridge/Rose Hill/Daniel Buckles House – timeline
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February 2008

1778 – Robert Buckles Sr.[I] had 404 acres resurveyed adjoining Henry Stoupe, Major William Morgan, Jacob Countes, Thomas Lafferty, Nicholas McIntire, and ? Vandivere. Significantly, there were two places where the boundary crossed “the road from the church on Bullsken to Shepherds Town.” (NN Surveys 3, 1790-1794, p. 76)

The survey was done in 1778 with William Osburn [sic] and William Buckles as chain carriers, with a warrant from Thomas Lord Fairfax. However, the grant was awarded in 1790 by Beverly Randolph, Governor of the Commonwealth, “in consideration of the Ancient composition of two pounds five shillings Sterling...”

This tract of 404 acres was just part of Buckles’ large collection of properties including:

1751 – 407 acres from Thomas Lord Fairfax. (Northern Neck [N.N.] Grants, Book G, page 552, #209 on the Galtjo Geertsema plot for Shepherdstown Quad) This was his “home farm” which adjoined Edward Lucas’ *Elmwood* farm at the “E. L.” stone.

1753 – 403 acres surveyed to the southeast of his home farm, but connected by a narrow “handle” of land on its northwest corner (see attached plat and survey description). The northern boundary line of this “handle” or dogleg adjoined the land of John Taylor “Near the Side of a Branch...” Taylor held the chain along with James Buckles for the 1753 survey by Thomas Rutherford, Jr. (Survey #102, Shepherdstown Quad, N.N. Grants, Book H, page 505)

1785 – Robert Buckles Sr. [I] conveyed 301 acres to William Buckles by Lease and Release. The land adjoined land of James Vandivere, Henry Stoupe, William Morgan, Thomas Lafferty, and Nicholas McIntire, indicating this was the same land as the 1778 survey, although 100 acres short. The deed was witnessed by David Osburn [sic], Thomas Lafferty, and James Hendricks (BC DB 6, p. 384).

1787 – Robert Buckles Sr.[I] wrote his will in which he divided his remaining land. To son James he gave “one Shilling Sterling and no more.” He devised his 407-acre home farm to son Robert Jr.[II] “the tract of Land I now live on...except thereout one hundred acres thereof...at the Lower end of the tract...I give and bequeath unto my grandson William Hendricks.” The remainder of his 403-acre tract was divided, part going “to my grandson William Hendricks the tract of land on which he now lives [Quinn Farm] and which I have had laid off for him containing about one hundred and seven acres...the remainder of the said Tract about one hundred and forty acres...to be sold...” To Tobias and Daniel Hendricks, also grandsons, he gave two tracts of 145 and 55 acres [these are in the Uvilla area]. He devised “to the three sons of my late son Abraham...a certain tract of land...adjoining the ore bank for which I have a patent supposed to

contain 400 acres.” Son William, who had gotten his land two years earlier, was appointed one of the executors; the other executor was his friend John Mark (BC WB 2, page 83).

The 1787 Berkeley County Personal Property Tax listed Robert Buckles Sr.[I] with his son James who was over the age of 21, one black male under the age of 16, three horses and eleven cattle. Robert Buckles Jr.[II] was listed separately with one white male between 16-21 and his brother William over 21 years, five horses and eleven cattle. William Hendricks was listed separately with four horses and four cattle, and was taxed on “Conrad Single” [Shindler?] who was over 21 years.

Robert Buckles Sr.[I] died in 1790.

1798 – Berkeley Co. House tax:

Robert Buckles, Jr.[III], one country house, \$525.00

Robert Buckles, Sr.[II], one country house, \$131.25 [home farm?]

William Buckles, one country house, \$630.00 [Rose Hill?]

William Buckles, one country house, \$262.50 [?]

William Buckles, one country house occupied by William Roberts, \$131.25

James Buckles, one country house, \$262.50

1802 – Jefferson Co. land tax assessed William Buckles for 404 acres (even though the deed stated 301 acres) and 142 acres.

1809 – Charles Varlé map showed the “plantation or farm” of Daniel Buckles (son of William?) on the east side of Ridge Road. Since Buckles had at least two houses it is possible that William was living in the Rose Hill stone house on the west side of the property (and road) while Daniel lived in another house on the east side (indicated on the 1852 map under the name of Col. John E. Hamtranck on the east side of the road).

1810 – William Buckles (brother of Robert [II]) and James Buckles were listed on the census record for Jefferson County on the same page as David Osburn, Thomas Lafferty, James Glenn, James Hendricks, and John Snider – all residents of Ridge Road. Oddly, Daniel was not named with a separate household.

1815 – Daniel Buckles was assessed for a house valued at \$1,100 over \$500 (\$1,600 total). No other Buckles houses were included on this special tax list.

1818 – William Buckles gave to his son Daniel, in consideration of his “natural love and affection,” 205 acres, “part of a larger tract” owned by William and “on which Daniel now lives.” The tract adjoined William Morgan, William Butler, Vandevier, Van Rutherford (along a valley), then along a division line on the edge of the valley and along the east side of the Shepherdstown Road. **This seems to be the outline of Rose Hill as it appears on the 1852**

map (see attached). William retained a life estate in the property, which also included his slaves Jacob, Maria, infant John, Nancy, Joseph, Jerry, Betsey, and Philip. (JC DB 10, p. 213)

The deed states that Daniel lives on the 205-acre tract (apparently on the west side of the road) although Varlé put him on the east side.

I think Thomas Lafferty may have been in possession of the other half of the William Buckles tract (1820- 165 acres adjoining Robert Lucas which he appeared to have as early as 1802?)

1820 – Daniel Buckles listed on the tax record with 205 acres adjoining John Mark (executor of Robert [I] will along with William). Daniel’s building value was \$2,000. John Mark, of Philadelphia, was assessed for 194 acres adjoining Daniel Morgan with a building value of \$2,000 (I think this is Fountain Rock which ends up in the Boteler family in 1835).

1827 – Daniel Buckles tax assessment for his 205 acres and \$2,000 building value is now described as “Sojourner’s Inn” (in place of the previous descriptions adj. John Mark who is now deceased). This description remains until 1835 when the 205 acres are described as adjoining Henry Boteler (Fountain Rock).

1841 – Daniel Buckles was assessed for 205 a. adjoining A.R. Boteler (NW 9) with \$2,000 building value, 50 acres adjoining William Butler (NW 9; probably part of the original Buckles grant) with no buildings, and 96 ³/₄ acres adjoining Charles Moler (N 8) with no building value.

Ca.1847 – Daniel Buckles died. His will instructed his executors to sell all of his real estate except the house in Shepherdstown occupied by his son-in-law Charles Harper (JC WB 10, p. 460).

The Rose Hill tract of 246 acres was sold in 1847 to William Butler for \$10,771 (JC DB 28, p. 428).

1850 – William Butler’s heirs were assessed for his four substantial farms, including the 246-acre Rose Hill (the smallest of the four), adjoining Alexander Boteler, with a building value of \$1,800.

1852 – The Rose Hill tract appeared on S. Howell Brown’s map under the name Charles T. Butler and the other tracts under other heirs names, although they were all still taxed under the name of the “William Butler heirs.” The 1883 map showed Charles T. Butler was still the owner of the Rose Hill farm. It is likely that Rose Hill was his country home.

When Charles Thomas Butler died in 1899, his obituary ran in the local Shepherdstown newspaper The Register on February 2:

Mr. Charles Thomas Butler died at the Entler Hotel in Shepherdstown at 7 o’clock last Thursday evening...Mr. Butler had moved to town from his country home about a week previous, expecting to remain at the hotel until spring...Mr. Butler was a prominent citizen and a representative farmer and businessman. He was born near Shepherdstown, and all of his long and useful life was spent in this

vicinity. He was the youngest son of the late William Butler, and was the last survivor of a family of fourteen...He was foreman of the jury that tried John E. Cooke, one of the John Brown conspirators at Harper's Ferry and it is said he is the last survivor of that jury. When Elmwood Cemetery was organized in 1869 he was one of its founders. He was made its first superintendent, and he held the office...until the time of his death...In 1876 Mr. Butler was elected to the State Senate from the thirteenth district...His wife was Miss Virginia Van Swearingen...Four children survive: William Butler, of this vicinity; Dr. C.T.V.S. Butler, of Shepherdstown; Mrs. Julia Alexander, of Charlestown; and Mrs. A.C. Moore, of Shenandoah Junction.