




Internal Rating: _____

WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

Street Address S of Charles Town Road E of Charles Town	Common/Historic Property Name/ Both Rion Hall [both]	Field Survey # Jefferson County 2004-2005 Survey No. 152	Site # (SHPO Only)
Town or Community vic. Halltown	County Jefferson	Negative No. Jefferson County 2004-2005 Survey Roll 14 Negative 25-28A	NR Listed Date 9-20-1982
Architect/Builder unidentified	Date of Construction c. 1836	Style Federal & Greek Revival characteristics	
Exterior Siding/Materials brick	Roofing Material standing-seam metal	Foundation stone	
Property Use or Function Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial Other	UTM # 18/258097/4353997		
Survey Organization & Date Taylor & Taylor Associates, for the Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commis- sion, 2004-2005	Quadrangle Name Charles Town, WV-VA		
		Part of What Survey/FR# Jefferson County 2004-2005 Survey	

Sketch Map of Property
or Attach Copy of USGS Map

See Survey Report



Present Owners	Owner's Mailing Address
Phone #	
Describe Setting	_____ Acres
This property is located in rural Jefferson County, east of the county seat of Charles Town.	
	_____ Archaeological Artifacts Present
Description of Buildings or Site (Original and Present)	_____ 3 _____ Stories _____ 5 _____ Front Bays
This is a large scale Federal-style residence of brick construction with a gable roof and three-bay facade with a pedimented portico shielding the main entrance, which is centered on the facade. The building is 3½ stories in height, with the third-story windows somewhat shorter than those of the first and second story. Centered on the facade above the main entrance is a three part window with larger center sash flanked by smaller sidelights, a design feature seen elsewhere in Jefferson County, which may reflect a local building tradition or may be the hallmark of a local builder. The gable ends are dominated by large bridged chimneys and a round-arched window is in the pediment of the gable. A glassed-in two-story connector links the main house to a two-story dependency. <i>(Use Continuation Sheets)</i>	
Alterations <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, describe	
Additions <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, describe	
Describe All Outbuildings	
Not far from the house is a large gambrel-roofed dairy barn and several other smaller agricultural dependencies. <i>(Use Continuation Sheets)</i>	
Statement of Significance	
This was the home of Edward Lewis, a Congressman from [then] Virginia. He was born at "Cold Spring," near Shepherdstown on November 30, 1800; attended the village schools; was graduated from the Tucker Law School, Winchester, Va., in 1825; was admitted to the bar the same year and commenced practice in Shepherdstown; moved to Charles Town in 1830 and continued the practice of law; also engaged in horticultural pursuits; member of the Virginia house of delegates in 1838 and 1839; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-sixth Congress (March 4, 1839-March 3, 1841); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1840 to the Twenty-seventh Congress; elected to the Twenty-eighth Congress (March 4, 1843-March 3, 1845); unsuccessful candidate for renomination in 1844; <i>(Use Continuation Sheets)</i>	
Bibliographical References	
See Survey Report and websites on Continuation Sheet <i>(Use Continuation Sheets)</i>	
Form Prepared By:	Date: January, 2005
Name/Organization: David L. Taylor, Principal, Taylor & Taylor Associates, Inc.	
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West Virginia Division of Culture and History
State Historic Preservation Office

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resumed the practice of law and horticultural pursuits; delegate to the Virginia constitutional convention in 1850 and 1851; died at his home, "Rion Hall," in Jefferson County, W. Va. On August 29, 1877; interment in the Zion Episcopal Churchyard, Charles Town. From: <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=L000494>]

His son, Daniel Bedinger Lucas was born in 1836 at Rion Hall. His parents were both from distinguished Virginia families. He attained his education at private academies and attended the University of Virginia where he graduated in 1856. He studied law at the school of Judge John W. Brockenbrough, at Lexington, Virginia (which was annexed to Washington and Lee in 1866) and graduated in 1859 but moved the next year to Richmond. He then returned to Charles Town and took up the practice of law. He was a poet and prolific writer.

Lucas's military service in the Civil War is described as follows by the archivist at Virginia Tech, where his papers are held:

At the beginning of the Civil War in 1861 he joined the staff of General Henry A. Wise and took part in the Kanawha Valley campaign, but his physical disability from a childhood spine injury kept him from active service in the last years of the war. Toward the end of the war he ran the blockade to defend his friend John Yates Beall, accused of being a Confederate spy, but was unable to defend him against the charges. Beall was executed on Governors Island, New York.

Barred from the practice of law until 1871, Lucas turned to literature and became co-editor of the Baltimore *Southern Metropolis*. Many of his poems were published in this magazine. He reentered the practice of law in 1871 and took a prominent role in the Democratic party politics of West Virginia, acting as Democratic elector in the elections of 1872 and 1876, to the legislature in 1884 and 1886, and as a member of the supreme court of appeals from 1889 to 1893.

Writing in 1923 in *Stories and Verse of West Virginia* (Scottsdale, Pennsylvania: Mennonite Publishing House, rev. ed. 1925), Ella May Turner noted, "Judge Lucas attained great distinction in his profession, because of his wonderful grasp of intricate legal questions and his eloquent and convincing oratory. Among the honors that came to him were his election to the State Legislature, and his appointment as judge of the Supreme Court of Appeals of his State, of which he was president at the time of his death. On account of his extensive law practice, he declined to accept a position as professor of law in West Virginia University, and also an appointment as circuit judge in his district."

Lucas's sister, Virginia Bedinger Lucas, was also reared at Rion Hall, but died early, in 1865. She was a poet and was sometimes called the "Pastoral Poet of the Shenandoah Valley." Daniel Lucas is best remembered for the poem, "The Land Where We Were Dreaming." He died at Rion Hall on June 24, 1909.

Bibliography of Daniel Bedinger Lewis

Daniel Bedinger Lucas, *The Wreath of Eglantine, and Other Poems* (Baltimore: Kelly, Piet & Company, 1869)

[Note: Virginia Bedinger Lucas, Daniel Bedinger Lucas's sister often published her poetry under the pen name, Eglantine. The collection of poetry which Lucas published in 1869 under the title *The Wreath of Eglantine, and Other Poems* also includes his sister's poetry.]

_____, *The Maid of Northumberland: A Dramatic Poem* (New York: G.P. Putman's Sons, 1879) (a verse play based on the Civil War)

_____, *Ballads and Madrigals* (New York: Pollard & Moss, 1884)

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_____, *The Land Where We Were Dreaming* (Boston: Roger G. Badger/Gorham Press, 1913)

Writings

Daniel Bedinger Lucas, *The Ethics of Nations* (Charlottesville, Virginia: James Alexander printer, 1856) ("An address delivered before the Jefferson Society, in the public hall, of the University of Virginia, on the 28th, June 1855")

_____, *Memoir of John Yates Beal: His Life; Trial; Correspondence; Diary; and Private Manuscript Found among His Papers, including his own account of the raid on Lake Erie* (Montreal: J. Lovell, 1865)

_____, *The Memoir of John Yates Beall: His Life; Trial; Correspondence; Diary; and Private Manuscript Found Among His Papers, Including His Own Account of the Raid on Lake Erie* (Montreal: Printed by J. Lovell, 1865)

Daniel Bedinger Lucas and J. Fairfax McLaughlin, *Fisher Ames, Henry Clay, etc.* (New York: C.L. Webster, 1891)

Daniel Bedinger Lucas, *Nicaragua: War of the Filibusters* (Richmond: B. F. Johnson Publishing Co., 1896) (Conway, New Hampshire: Tienda El Quetzal, 1986)

Daniel Bedinger Lucas, *Dramatic Works of Daniel Bedinger Lucas* (Boston: R. G. Badger, University of Virginia, 1913) (Charles W. Kent and Virginia Lucas eds.) (C. F. Tucker Brooke intro.)

(Source: <http://www.wvu.edu/~lawfac/jelkins/lp-2001/lucas.html>)

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