GENERAL DARKE FARM

Resource History

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General William Darke was a Revolutionary War veteran and a representative of Berkeley County during Virginia's ratification of the Constitution. In August of 1770 his brother Joseph Darke was granted 380 acres on the Elk Branch in present day Duffields. The original Darke mansion no longer stands, the house that exists on the property today was originally the servant's quarters.

1801 – At General William Darke's death his 556 acre estate was passed down to his daughter Mary Darke Manning per his will. (JCWB 1/1)

1840 – Nathaniel W. Manning, grandson of Gen. William Darke, inherited the property from his mother Mary Darke Manning after her death. (JCDB 6/309)

1846 – Joseph T. Hess purchased from Nathaniel W. and Patsy P. Manning, James M. Manning, Sarah D. Briscoe, and James B. and Mary E. D. Waugh for \$4,262.06. (JCDB 28/299) According to a survey by James M. Brown accompanying the deed, the tract inherited by Nathaniel Manning had been larger than the one sold to Joseph Hess, though specific acreage is not mentioned.

October 1876 – Levi Hess purchased from Joseph T. Hess for the sum of \$4,500, referenced in the deed as the "Manning Farm." (JCDB D/489-491)

May 1878 – J. Calvin and Gertrude W. Tabler purchased from Levi and Rachael G. Hess for \$2,700 and two lots in Martinsburg, WV described simply as "lots 2 and 3". (JCDB F/346)

August 1924 – John A. Link Jr. purchased from Gertrude W. Tabler for \$10,500. (JCDB 124/467) Gertrude had received full ownership of the property after her husband Calvin passed. (JCWB E/165)

October 1951 - M. M. Jenkins was granted the 95 acre Darke Farm from Cecil M. Link, son of John A. Link and the executor of his will. (JCDB 185/562) (JCWB I/118)

August 1955 – Harry R. Jenkins and Millard L. Jenkins purchased from their grandfather M. M. Jenkins for \$5,000. (JCDB 209/325)

August 1989 - Millard L. Jenkins conveyed his interest in the property to Harry R. Jenkins, which made him the sole owner. (JCDB 639/702)

November 2012 – Harry R. Jenkins III inherited from the Harry R. Jenkins Jr. & Kathryn K. Jenkins Trust. (JCDB 1117/631)