

## BRADLEY

Source: A Past to Preserve – Prince William County Historical Commission

Historic Name: Bradley

Date or Period: 1815-1816

Original Use: Residence

Vicinity: Manassas

Bradley is a two-story, early-Federal-style, central-hall-plan, red brick farmhouse. The excellent brickwork is laid in Flemish bond on the front and five-course American bond on the sides and rear. From 1816 until 1825, Bradley was the site of a U. S. post office. Bradley was also the site of the Manassas Presbyterian Church, which held services here from 1852 until 1855. A church was then constructed on the farm and used until it was destroyed by Union soldiers in 1861. After the war, area Presbyterians began to hold services in Manassas. A cemetery containing several Civil War graves is situated near the north end of the house.

Alexandria Gazette 30 Dec 1831

FOR RENT FOR THE ENSUING YEAR, Two farms, in the County of Prince William, Virginia: BRADLEY, distant three miles from Brentsville, containing about 1400 acres of the most susceptible land in that part of the State, with a large and convenient Brick Dwelling House and all necessary out houses.

HAZEL PLAIN, situated between Centreville and Haymarket, on the Turnpike Road to Warrenton, containing about 600 acres, with a part well taken in clover. Crops of wheat and rye have been sown on both these places the present fall.

FOR HIRE, a large number of likely NEGROES, of both sexes. Should these not be disposed of prior to the first day of January Court, they will be hired at public auction on that day in Brentsville. Application (if by letter post paid) to be made to the subscriber, in Alexandria D.C.

Wm. H. Fowle

Alexandria Gazette 1839

PUBLIC SALES – For Sale – Valuable lands in the Counties of Prince William and Fairfax, in Virginia.

In Prince William County one Tract of Land on LITTLE BULL RUN, containing about six hundred acres, now occupied by Cyrus C. Marsteller;

One other Tract of Land in the neighborhood of BETHLEHEM MEETING HOUSE containing about one hundred and twenty seven acres, now occupied by John Godfrey.

One other Tract of Land in the same neighborhood, containing about two hundred and forty acres, now occupied by John Woodyard.

One other Tract of Land, called and known by the name of BRADLEY containing about thirteen hundred and seventy-six acres, now occupied by Alexandria Howison; One other Tract of Land, containing, ten acres, adjoining the tract called Bradley.

One other Tract of Land, containing about Eight Acres, adjoining the Farm on which Bernard Hooe Sr., formerly resided, called HAZEL PLAIN, now occupied by Mrs. Shackelford.

In Fairfax County One Tract of Land on Cub Run, containing about six hundred and fifty acres, now occupied by John Lynn;

One other Tract of Land, called WOODLAWN, near Centreville, containing about four hundred and twenty-seven acres, now occupied by Alexandria S. Grigsby; and one other tract of land, near Centreville, containing about fifty-three acres now also occupied by the said Alexander S. Grigsby.

The sale of the above described lands will be made by the subscribers, under the authority of a decree of the Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery for the County of Fairfax, in the suit of John H. Bernard, executor of Elizabeth Hipkins, deceased, and others, against the administrators and heirs of James H. Hooe and Elizabeth T. Hooe, deceased, and will commence at Fairfax County Court House on Friday, the 25<sup>th</sup> day of October next, and if necessary, be continued on the following day.

Terms of Sale – One tenth part of the purchase money to be paid in hand, as a deposit, to be forfeited if the purchasers shall fail to comply with the terms of sale, if the same be approved by the Court; and the remainder in two equal installments of one and two years, to bear interest from the day of sale, to be secured by the bonds of the purchasers, with securities to be approved of by the court, the title of the lands to be retained until the deferred installments shall be paid, and the lands to be liable to be resold by the order of the Court on default in payment of any of the deferred installments.

Robert I. Taylor, Commissioner  
Bernard Hooe, Commissioner

Alexandria Gazette 27 April 1844

Valuable lands for sale in the Counties of Prince William and Fairfax, in Virginia. In Prince William County - one Tract of Land on Little Bull Run, containing about six hundred acres, believed to be now occupied by C. C. Marsteller: One other Tract of Land, in the immediate neighborhood of Bethlehem Meeting House, containing about one hundred and twenty seven acres, believed to be now occupied by Howson Pinn. One other Tract of Land in the same neighborhood, containing about two hundred and forty acres, believed to be now occupied by Walter Woodyard. One other Tract of Land, called and known by the name of Bradley, containing about thirteen hundred and seventy-six acres, now occupied by Alexander Howison; One other Tract of Land, containing eighty acres, adjoining Hazel Plain, the former residence of Bernard Hooe Sr., deceased, and believed to be now occupied by James Robinson.

In Fairfax County One Tract of Land on Cub Run, containing about six hundred and fifty acres, and believed to be occupied by Warren Crosen. One other Tract of Land, called Wood Lawn, containing about three hundred and fifty eight acres, and believed to be now occupied by Garrett Freeman. One other tract of land containing about four hundred and seventy-seven acres is now occupied by the said James Fewell. The lands in Prince William are distant from Alexandria in the District of Columbia, generally, about thirty miles, and those in Fairfax about twenty to twenty-five miles, and immediately on a good Turnpike Road, leading to the said town of Alexandria. Mr. Thomas B. Gaines, who resides near Haymarket, in Prince William County, will show the Lands in that county to all persons wishing to see them, and he will give such information as may be desired in regard to the quality of the soil, the supply of wood and water, and the healthfulness of the country.

The Fairfax Lands are all immediately in the neighborhood of Centreville, and any information desired in regard to them will be readily furnished by the tenants in possession, or by the undersigned.

The sale of those in Fairfax County will be made at public auction, at Fairfax Court House, on Tuesday, the 25<sup>th</sup> day of June next, commencing at 11 o'clock in the morning, and those in Prince William will be offered at public sale at Brentsville, (Prince William Court House) on the following day, commencing at the same hour. Possession will be given to the purchasers at the end of the present year, and they will have the privilege of seeding a fall crop.

Terms of Sale – One tenth part of the purchase money of each tract above mentioned, will be required to be paid at the time of the sale, as a deposit, to be forfeited if the purchasers shall fail to comply with the terms of sale; and the remainder to be paid in three equal annual installments, to bear interest from the day of sale, to be secured by the bonds of the purchasers, with personal security to be approved of by the court, under whose decree this sale is made. The titles of the lands to be retained until the deferred installments shall be paid, and the lands to be liable to be resold by the order of the Court on default in the payment of any of the deferred installments. The Commissioners are authorized to sell the above lands by dividing and subdividing them as they may deem advisable.

Bernard Hooe, Commissioner of sale  
John Powell, Commissioner of sale

Alexandria Gazette 25 Mar 1846

VALUABLE LANDS FOR SALE IN THE COUNTIES OF PRINCE WILLIAM AND FAIRFAX VIRGINIA – By virtue of a decree of the Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery, for the County of Fairfax, pronounced at its November Term, 1845, in two suits therein depending, in the name of John H. Bernard, Executor of Elizabeth Hipkins, against James H. Hooe's administrator, and others, and Aris Buckner and wife against the same defendants, the undersigned will sell at Centreville, in the County of Fairfax, on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of May 1846, if fair, if not the next fair day, the following desirable tracts of land belonging to the estate of James H. Hooe, deceased in Prince William County, one tract of land on Little Bull Run, called "POPLAR FIELD," containing about six hundred acres, now rented by C. C. Marsteller. One other tract of land immediate neighborhood of Bethlehem Meeting House, containing about one hundred and twenty seven acres, now occupied by Howson Pinn. One other Tract of Land in the same neighborhood, containing about two hundred and forty acres, now occupied by Walter Woodyard. One other Tract of Land, called and known by the name of BRADLEY, containing about thirteen hundred and seventy-six acres, now occupied by William Duvall, One tract adjoining Bradley, containing ten acres and one other tract of land containing about eight acres adjoining HAZEL PLAIN the former residence of Bernard Hooe, senior, deceased, now occupied by James Robinson.

In Fairfax County One Tract of Land on Cub Run, containing about six hundred and fifty acres, and believed to be occupied by Mr. Legg. One other Tract of Land, called WOOD LAWN, containing about three hundred and fifty acres, now occupied by Garrett Freeman and Henry Harrison. One other tract of land containing about four hundred and seventy-seven acres is now occupied by the said James Fewell, and another tract of land containing about fifty-three acres also occupied by James Fewell.

The Commissioners intend dividing these lands into smaller tracts to suit the convenience of purchasers, plats of which will be exhibited on the day of sale, and as soon as they are made out will be shown to any one disposed to purchase. The lands in Prince William are distant from Alexandria in the District of Columbia, generally, about thirty miles, and those in Fairfax about twenty to twenty-five miles, and immediately on a good Turnpike Road, leading to the said town of Alexandria. Several of these tracts are of the celebrated "red soil," regarded by many as the

best lands in the state, and are well worthy the attention of those disposed to make investments in real estate. Mr. Thomas B. Gaines living near Haymarket, in Prince William County, will show the Lands in that county to all persons wishing to see them, and he will give such information as may be desired in regard to the quality of the soil, the supply of wood and water, and the healthfulness of the country. Either of the Commissioners will also furnish such information as they possess in regard to them.

Terms of Sale – One tenth part of the purchase money cash as a deposit, one fourth of the residue to be paid upon a confirmation of the sale; the balance in three equal annual installments, with interest from the day of sale, for which deferred payments, bonds with good personal security will be required, the title to be retained until full payment shall be made, Sale to commence at 11 o'clock, A. M.

F. L. Smith, Alexandria

T. R. Love, Fairfax Court House

## **15 January 1873**

### **Bradley Farm Contract**

Bradley Farm near Manassas, Prince William County, Virginia, January 15th 1873. This is to certify that Mr. George Clark, farmer, has this day agreed with Capt C. A. Limstrong, owner of Bradley Farm viz. to work, do and find all laborers for farming the said farm in a proper, careful & farmer like manner, from the fifteenth day of January 1873 till the 1st day of January 1874, for one third of all hay, wheat, oats, corn, buckwheat, & potatoes, and that he Mr. George Clark binds himself to farm about 25 acres in corn, 25 in oats, the 17 (not legible) in wheat that are already sown, & all the hay & potatoes on lands in the orchard as directed by the owners. The above work is understood to include the taking care of the horses, hauling of manure on the lands, ploughing, sowing, harrowing, rolling, mowing, reaping, & husking corn, threshing all grain, hauling all the produce in & stowing it away in its proper places clean & ready for market, repairing & keeping in repair the fences around the fields he is cultivating, cutting & hauling rails for the same if required. Owner finding all seed & the use of two horses or oxen, one wagon & all the farming implements now on the farm; for addition to above work in consideration for his board he agrees to cut & haul to the wood pile all wood required for hands use, also to cut down logs & haul them to the saw mill & the lumber back on the farm where required to assist in making new fences & plowing the garden & to assist (not legible) about the farm & he Mr. George Clark agrees to pay half the wages of a boy for having the boys assistance in hauling in such as hay, wheat, oats, corn fodder, or wood & also agrees to pay \$13 for the labour already done in the wheat fields. It is also understood Mr. George Clark is to have few days to himself when the fields are in cultivation, fences in repair and no urgent work of his required his attention & a boy on the preemies attending to the horses & etc.

signed, George T. Clarke

signed, C. A. Limstrong

**George T. Clark**

**vs**

**C. R. Limstrong**

**Declaration**

State of Virginia

County of Prince William County to wit

In the Circuit Court of the said county

George T. Clark, plaintiff, came and complains of C. R. Limstrong, defendant, who hath been duly summoned &c of a plea of trespass on the case. For that whereas the said C. R. Limstrong heretofore, to wit on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 1873 at Prince William County aforesaid, being then and there the owner of a certain farm called Bradley Farm in said County, the said plaintiff upon the special request of said defendant then and there made entered into and signed a certain agreement in writing, which said agreement was signed by defendant and is now shown to the court marked "exhibit S" and filed herewith by which agreement in writing plaintiff agreed to work the farm said defendant to find all labour for farming said farm in a proper, careful and farmer like manner from the fifteenth day of January 1873 till the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 1874; to farm about 25 acres in corn 25 in oats and 17 in wheat which were then already sown, all the hay and potatoes on lands in a certain orchard upon said farm as directed by said Limstrong; that he the said plaintiff farther agreed in said writing that the work which should be done by him should be such as taking care of horses, hauling manure on lands, ploughing, sowing, harrowing, rolling, mowing, reaping, cutting, and husking corn, threshing all grain, hauling all the produce in and stowing it away in its proper places clean and ready for market and repairing and keeping in repair the fences around the fields which the said plaintiff was to cultivating cutting and hauling rails for the same if required; and said plaintiff furthermore in consideration for his board agreed at the request of said Limstrong then and there made to cut and haul to the woodpile all wood required for house use, also to cut down logs and haul them to the saw mill and the lumber back on to the farm when required, to assist in making new fences and planting the garden and to assist in general about the farm; and he the said plaintiff farther agreed at the request of said defendant then and there made to pay one half of the wages of a boy for having the boys assistance in hauling in hay wheat corn oats fodder or wood &c and to pay the said Limstrong \$13.00 for the labour done in the wheat field previous to the date of said agreement in writing.

In consideration of which agreement of plaintiff herein before set forth, defendant then and there promised plaintiff one-third of all hay wheat oats, corn, buckwheat & potatoes raised on the said farm by plaintiffs labor from the said 15<sup>th</sup> of January 1873 to the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1874 to furnish all seed and the use of two horses or oxen one wagon and all the farming implements then on the farm; to keep a boy to assist plaintiff and defendant and to pay said boy one half his wages; and also to allow plaintiff a few days to himself when the fields were in cultivation, the fences in repair and no urgent work requiring his attention and a boy on the premises attending to the horses &c.

That he the said plaintiff confiding in all the promises of defendant heretofore named, did immediately thereafter to wit: on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 1873 begin his work upon said farm, that he did farm the same in a proper careful and farmer like manner & that he did find all necessary labor therefore until about the 6<sup>th</sup> day of August 1873; that he did farm the said farm in wheat oats corn and potatoes in accordance with said agreement in writing until or on about said 6<sup>th</sup> day of august; that he did do all necessary hauling of manure, ploughing, sowing, harrowing, rolling, mowing, reaping, hauling in and stowing away of produce in its proper places; clean and ready for market; that he did repair and keep in repair the fences around the fields he was cultivating;

that he did cut and haul rails for the same if required; that he did cut and haul to the wood pile all wood required for house use until about August 6<sup>th</sup> 1873 that he did cut down logs and haul them to the saw mill and the lumber back on the farm when required; that he did assist in making new fences and planting the garden and did assist in general about the farm; that he has paid said defendant the \$13.00 afore named by crediting him the same; that he continued to do these and all necessary things to carry out said agreement in writing herein before named up to August 6<sup>th</sup> 1873 save that he was in many things hindered and prevented by the unlawful interference of said defendant; that he did not attend to the threshing of the wheat and oats and property caring for same after harvesting because he was forbidden so to do by said defendant who ordered him the said plaintiff away from the farm with rough and threatening language and conduct; that he had made all necessary arrangements for cutting and husking the corn but on or about the 7<sup>th</sup> of October the said defendant began cutting said corn before it was ripe and in a proper condition for cutting to the great injury of said crop of corn and to the great damage of plaintiff ; and that he the said plaintiff was at all times ready and willing to carry out said agreement in all respects of all of which defendant during all this time had notice notwithstanding which the defendant hath not performed his promises made in said agreements, but on the contrary thereof did at various times refuse to furnish the horses or oxen agreed upon and the necessary farming implements agreed upon; he did not keep a boy to assist plaintiff but conducted himself so roughly towards the boy employed by himself that he the said boy left his service and said defendant did not employ another by reason of which plaintiff was obliged to do the work properly the work of said boy for three months of the most busy season of the year; said defendant refused on or about the 6<sup>th</sup> of August 1873 to board plaintiff and thus compelled plaintiff to board one half mile distant from the farm to the great inconvenience and damage of plaintiff and contrary to said agreement; that at various times during the summer and fall of 1873 defendant used harsh profane and violent language toward plaintiff and ordered him away from the said farm; that he refused to allow him to thresh the wheat and oats which had been harvested by plaintiff; that he took charge of the corn crop and commenced harvesting it before it was in a proper condition; that the said defendant hath not given to him the one-third of all hay wheat oats corn buckwheat and potatoes promised in said agreement in writing, but on the contrary has held and still doth hold exclusive possession thereof although often requested to deliver said one-third to plaintiff; by all of which defendant hath broken said agreement in writing; whereby the plaintiff hath wholly lost the gains and profits resulting to him from said agreement and hath suffered damage to the amount of \$500.00 and is in other respects greatly injured and damnified.

Whereby said defendant hath become indebted to the plaintiff in the said sum of \$500.00 and for this also to wit: that heretofore, to wit: on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of August A.D. 1873 at the County aforesaid, the said defendant was indebted to the plaintiff in the sum of \$162.72 for divers goods, wares and merchandise, before that time, by the said plaintiff sold and delivered to the said defendant at his special instance and request the particulars of which one set forth in exhibit B filed herewith; and also in the further sum of \$171.32 for the work and labor, care and diligence, and services of the said plaintiff by the said plaintiff before that time done, performed and bestowed in and about the business of the said defendant at his special instance and request; the particulars of which one set forth in exhibit C filed herewith; and also in the further sum of \$171.32 for money by the said plaintiff before that time lent and advanced to, and paid, laid out and expended for, the said defendant at his special instance and request; and also in the further sum of \$171.32 for other money by the said defendant before that time had and received to and for the use of the said plaintiff; and being so indebted the said defendant in consideration thereof

afterwards, to wit: on the day and year aforesaid, at the County aforesaid, undertook and faithfully promised the said plaintiff to pay to the said plaintiff the aforesaid several sums of money in this court mentioned, whenever he the said defendant should be thereto afterwards requested.

And for this, also, that the said defendant afterwards, to wit: on the day and year aforesaid, at the County aforesaid, accounted with the said plaintiff of and concerning divers other sums of money, by and from the said defendant to the said plaintiff before that time due and owing and then in arrear and unpaid and upon such accounting the said defendant was then and there found to be in arrear and indebted to the said plaintiff in the further sum of \$171.32 and being so indebted, the said defendant in consideration thereof, then and there undertook and faithfully promised the said plaintiff to pay to the plaintiff the said sum of money in this court mentioned whenever he the said defendant should be thereto afterwards requested.

Nevertheless, the said defendant not regarding his said several promises and undertakings, but intending and contriving to defraud and injure the plaintiff in this behalf, hath not as yet paid to the plaintiff the aforesaid several sums of money or any or either of them or any part thereof, although often requested so to do; but the said defendant to pay the same to the plaintiff hath hitherto wholly neglected and refused, and still neglect and refuse to the damage of the plaintiff \$500.00; and therefore the plaintiff brings this suit, &c.

George C. Round

P. Q.

Alexandria Gazette 30 Aug 1848

PUBLIC SALE OF LAND, Pursuant to a decree of the Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery for the County of Fairfax, in the case of Hipkins, executor against Hooe etal, and Buckner against Fowle and others, the undersigned, the commissioners therein named, will sell at Centreville in the county of Fairfax, on Saturday, the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November next, the following tracts of land to wit; 320 acres of land in the county of Fauquier, allotted to Thomas Hooe, deceased, under decree of the Superior Court of Prince William County in a suit in the name of Fowle against Hooe, described as Lot#1 and known as part of "Hale's Tract," allotted in the aforesaid division to William H. Fowle, described as Lot 2 and conveyed by said Fowle and wife, to Jacob Douglass, by deed dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March 1835, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the County Court of Fauquier, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April 1835. At the same time and place 705.2 acres of land, allotted in the division before mentioned to Margaret S. Hooe, and designated as Lot No. 3 being part of Hale's Tract," and conveyed to Jacob Douglass by Margaret S. Hooe, by deed dated the 4<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1837 recorded the 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1838. Also a tract of land in the County of Prince William, called "Walnut Branch" contained 473 acres allotted to Thomas P. Hooe, and conveyed by him to E. B. Evans by deed dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1834, now in possession of \_\_\_ Stone and Banks S. Menifee, adjoining the lands of Elisha B. Evans and others. Also another tract of land known as "Bull Run Quarter", in the county of Prince William, containing 1074 acres, recently sold by William H. Fowle to \_\_\_ Triplette, lies on Bull Run, adjoining T. W. Newman, Isaac Heath and others, red land and originally good; improvements indifferent. Another tract of land in the county called "Cabin Branch," adjoining Bradley Farm on the west; no improvements upon this tract. Also a tract of land in the County of Prince William called "Purcell & Linton Tract" containing 406 acres, 10 acres of which were conveyed to Moses Lee by Thomas I. Hooe, deceased, by deed, dated the 8<sup>th</sup> of February 1836. One other tract containing 511 acres, known as the "Linton and Larkin" Tract, formerly belonging to Thomas P. Hooe and sold to him or his executors to Strother Rennoe, lies just above Millford on Broad Run, adjoins Thomas W. Beedle and others. Also the "Bruce" tract, containing 306 acres formerly belonging to Thomas P. Hooe, and now in possession of C. C. Marsteller. Improvements on these three parcels indifferent, the lands tolerably good with sufficient of timber. Also a small tract of about 15 acres adjoining Bradley. The lands herein offered lot sale formerly belonging to Mrs. E. T. Hooe and will be

shown to any persons who may be disposed to purchase them by Mr. Thomas B. Gaines who resides near Haymarket in the County of Prince William. Any further information will also be furnished by either of the undersigned. Terms of Sale – One tenth of the purchase money will be required in hand; one fourth upon the conformation of the sale by the Court; for the residue the purchasers will be required to give notes with approved security, payable on one, two and three years, with interest from the day of sale, the title to the land to be retained and the land liable to be resold in default of the payment of the purchase money or any part thereof.

F. L. Smith – Alexandria  
T. R. Love – Fairfax Court House  
Commissioners of Sale

Alexandria Gazette 13 Sep 1870

MANASSAS HOTEL – F. J. Cannon has disposed of the Manassas Hotel Property to Samuel Wolverton in exchange for the BRADLEY FARM containing 147 ACRES. There will be no change in the management of the Hotel. The popular landlord, Harvey Varns, will continue as the host of the Manassas Hotel. – Manassas Gazette