

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
 INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

 SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
 TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS
**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Shrewsbury, Samuel Sr., House

AND/OR COMMON

Old Stone House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

310 Stubb Drive

—NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Belle

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

STATE

West Virginia

CODE

54

COUNTY

Kanawha

CODE

039

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

 DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

 OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

 YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO

## PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

~~M. F. Burgess~~ Belle Historical Restoration Society

STREET &amp; NUMBER

1701 W. Robert Ave.

1601 W. Central Avenue Belle W.V. 25015

CITY, TOWN

Belle

— VICINITY OF

STATE

West Virginia

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kanawha County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Virginia and Court Streets

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

STATE

West Virginia

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Stone House at Belle, also called the Samuel Shrewsbury, Sr., House, is located thirteen miles east of Charleston at Belle, Kanawha County, West Virginia. The house was built on a level tract between the Kanawha River and the old James River and Kanawha Turnpike (U.S. Route 60) that carried 19th century traffic from Richmond, Virginia, and points East, across the Blue Ridge and Allegheny Mountains to the Ohio River. Because of its early date and stone construction, the house was a quickly recognized landmark. With the growth of the area, particularly of the chemical industry at Belle after World War I, the Old Stone House lost its orientation as the community grew up around it. The disappearance of former byways relating to the house, in addition to identical fenestration and door openings of the two facades, has made it impossible to determine which of the sides of the building was the original entrance elevation.

The Old Stone House is a small single-pile stone building with a medium-pitched gable roof. The outstanding structural and decorative feature is the 18-inch thick coursed rubble walls and the large roughly dressed sandstone quoins that strengthen the building's corners. Interior end chimneys of sandstone rubble were also constructed, although only the southeast chimney has survived. Four fireplaces were thus provided, one for each room.

The southeast and northwest elevations are three bays each with a door centered in each facade. Rectangular attic windows flank the interior end chimneys in both gable ends of the building. The southeast doorway is surmounted with a rectangular transom. The window and door openings of the Old Stone House are headed with flat stone arches. The entire house measures approximately 37 feet across the front and 25 feet along the sides.

A narrow center hall, dividing the house front to rear, separates the two lower and two upper rooms. A single-flight stair rises to the second floor. Mortised and tenoned timbers and cross beams secured with wooden pegs form the truss system of the roof, an indication of 19th century building customs, but not proof that the beams form part of the original roofing system. Mortise and tenon technology was in wide use throughout the 19th century.

Woodwork in the house has been altered, removed or replaced with later substitutes, probably dating from late antebellum times. A shed porch, perhaps of turn-of-the-century vintage, was added to the house, enclosed in part, and later extended to provide extra rooms for 20th century owners.

PER  
 PREH  
 140C  
 150C  
 160C  
 170C  
 X 180C  
 190C  
 SPEC  
 STA

# 84 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 15 599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1810 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Samuel Shrewsbury, Sr.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Stone House at Belle, Kanawha County, West Virginia, is a significant example of trans-Allegheny pioneer architecture. Its heavy sandstone coursed rubble walls are unusual for the locale where most habitations were constructed of hewn hardwood logs from the virgin forests. The choice of durable materials was a reflection of the prominence of the Shrewsbury brothers, Samuel, John and Joel who settled on the land, and of their determination to permanently reside in the Great Kanawha Valley.

The Shrewsburys acquired their Kanawha tract from Col. John Dickinson, a prominent Virginia gentleman who fought the British at the Battle of Cowpens and the Indians at the Battle of Point Pleasant. Col. Dickinson patented large tracts in western Virginia and Kentucky, including the famous Salt Licks at the mouth of Campbell's Creek in the Kanawha Valley. Samuel and John Shrewsbury married daughters of Col. Dickinson who left the brothers, in 1796, a 704 acre tract that included both hill and bottom land on the north side of the Kanawha River east of Charleston. This property was called the "Pioneer Property" in the early land-books.

In May 1798, Samuel and John left for western Virginia with their wives, children, slaves, household goods and other possessions loaded upon wagons.

Samuel and John Shrewsbury built temporary log houses and cleared part of their lands. Shortly thereafter they became very active in the booming salt business of the Kanawha Valley that centered in the region of their property. The Shrewsburys thus acquired additional property and some wealth.

Samuel Shrewsbury built circa 1810 a stone house on his original tract amidst a walnut grove that tradition says supplied the building with interior woodwork and wainscoting. The house witnessed a growing movement of traffic along the east-west artery between Richmond and the Ohio Basin called the James River and Kanawha Turnpike. Aside from the large numbers of settlers passing along both banks of the river, herdsmen and salt wagon drivers passed by almost daily. The stage coach service between Lewisburg and Charleston was well established by the late 1820s when the right side of the Kanawha River was the favored route.

Formal division of the 704 acre Shrewsbury tract occurred in 1830 when Samuel and John, who lived on the land peacefully together for many years, decided to provide land for their respective heirs. The old house subsequently remained in the hands of Shrewsbury descendants until the late 19th century.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Callahan, James Morton. Semi-Centennial History of West Virginia. Semi-Centennial Commission of West Virginia, 1913, pp. 95,97.

Dayton, Ruth Woods. Pioneers and Their Homes on Upper Kanawha. Charleston, W.Va. West Virginia Publishing Co., 1947, pp. 140-150.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Belle, W. Va.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,7 4,5,2 3,8,0 4,2 3,2 1,0,0

B                  

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C                  

D                  

E                  

F                  

G                  

H                  

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The property is located on a city lot measuring 50' x 125' approximately 150 feet south of the intersection of Stubbs Drive with Dupont Avenue, between Stubbs Drive and Reynolds Branch Creek.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Rodney S. Collins, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

West Virginia Dept. of Culture and History

DATE

April 12, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Capitol Complex

TELEPHONE

(304) 348-0244

CITY OR TOWN

Charleston

STATE

West Virginia

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE X

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Clarence Morrow*

TITLE West Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE May 16, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

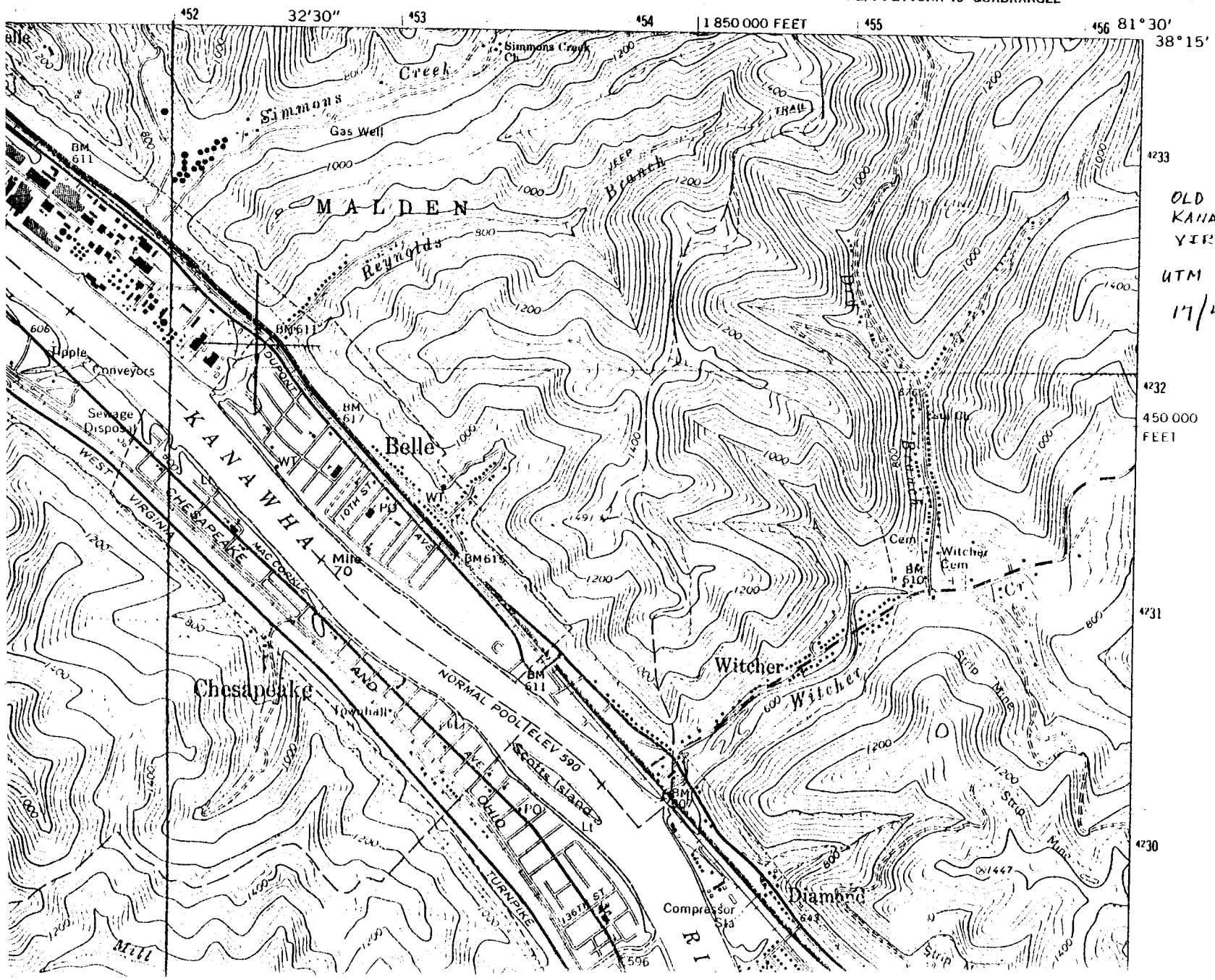
ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

BELLE QUADRANGLE  
 WEST VIRGINIA  
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
 NE/4 PEYTONA 15' QUADRANGLE

4760 IV SW  
 (QUICK)



OLD STONE HOUSE, BELLE,  
 KANAWHA COUNTY, WEST  
 VIRGINIA  
 UTM REFERENCES :  
 17/452380/4232100

