

Pitts & Dorrier Ledger #1, July 1, 1901-May 31, 1902

Owner: Pitts & Dorrier Ledger #1: David H. Pitts and William Dorrier, owners of Valmont Farm, Scottsville, Virginia.

Type of ledger: Business cashbook, record of customers and items sold

Date: July 1st 1901- May 31st 1902

Items listed as sold within ledger:

- Food items such as sugar, vinegar, coffee, turnip seeds, eggs, molasses, flour, bacon, chocolate, tobacco, pepper, lard, vanilla, and salt.
- Supplies and hardware such as rivets, staples, oil, horse shoes, paint, slating nails, and cotton, plow bolts.
- General items such as soap, envelopes, and cigars.

Historic Information:

This ledger belonged to David H. Pitts and William Dorrier of Scottsville, Virginia. David H. Pitts was born September 24, 1852 and died August 2, 1932¹. David H. Pitts and William Dorrier purchased Valmont Farm from the Henry Gantt family in 1891 due to bankruptcy². Valmont Farm was once owned by Peyton Harrison, circa 1830, and widely known by the name of Belle Grove⁴. Edward Scott built the first house on Valmont in 1732 with a patent by Daniel Scott and the structure on the farm served as a temporary court house until 1745². Valmont is situated on a tract of land that overlooks the Horseshoe Bend portion of the James River, where the heart of Scottsville is centered. The estate existed as early as 1745, under the ownership of Edward Scott, for whom Scottsville is named. At that time, the estate was known as Totier, named after the Totier Creek that ran across the property. The structure on the property served as the Albemarle county courthouse before a new courthouse was constructed two years following.

Architectural information:

The addition to Valmont that took place in 1800, following the courthouse relocation, made use of the old structures timbers, beveled posts, and beams from the basement of the house. Mrs. Stella Pitts Pruett, daughter of D.H. Pitts gives insight into the architecture of the estate: "The oldest house on Valmont was probably a small one-room log cabin in the woods between Valmont and Bellehaven on the hill above the dam. Made of logs with pine floor, rock fireplace, its small windows had rotted solid wood shutters, and door was heavy wood with a wooden bar that latched into a support on each side of door"⁷. The old county jail was also located on the property, to the left of the front of the former courthouse structure⁶.

When Pitts and Dorrier bought Valmont Farm in the 1890s, they raised horses on the land. D.H. Pitts bought out Dorrier's share in 1903. William Dorrier later built the Dorrier building in 1912, which operated as a general merchandise and feed-grain store on the corner of Valley Street³.

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An architectural evaluation of Valmont completed in 1975 describes the house on Valmont as a paragon of the 18th century vernacular house, with a noticeably steep roof, chimneys on either side of the structure, beaded weatherboard white wood walls, and minimal details⁶.

Photographs of Belle Grove Plantation:

1. "Belle Grove, exterior sketch." Johnson, Floyd E.

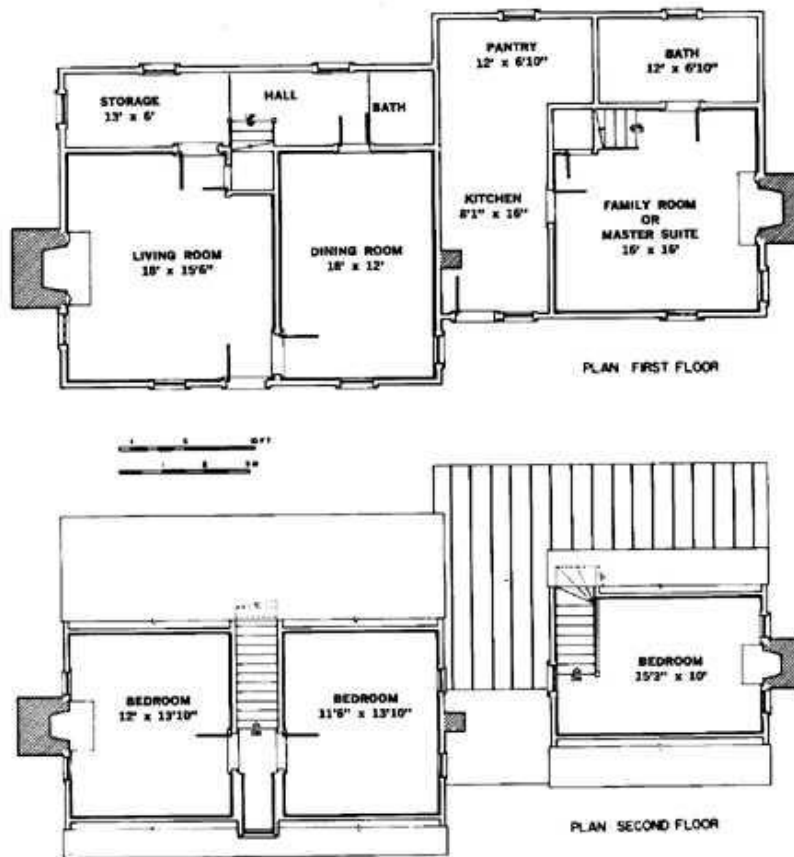


2. "Belle Grove, before renovation." Exterior photograph by Johnson, Floyd E.



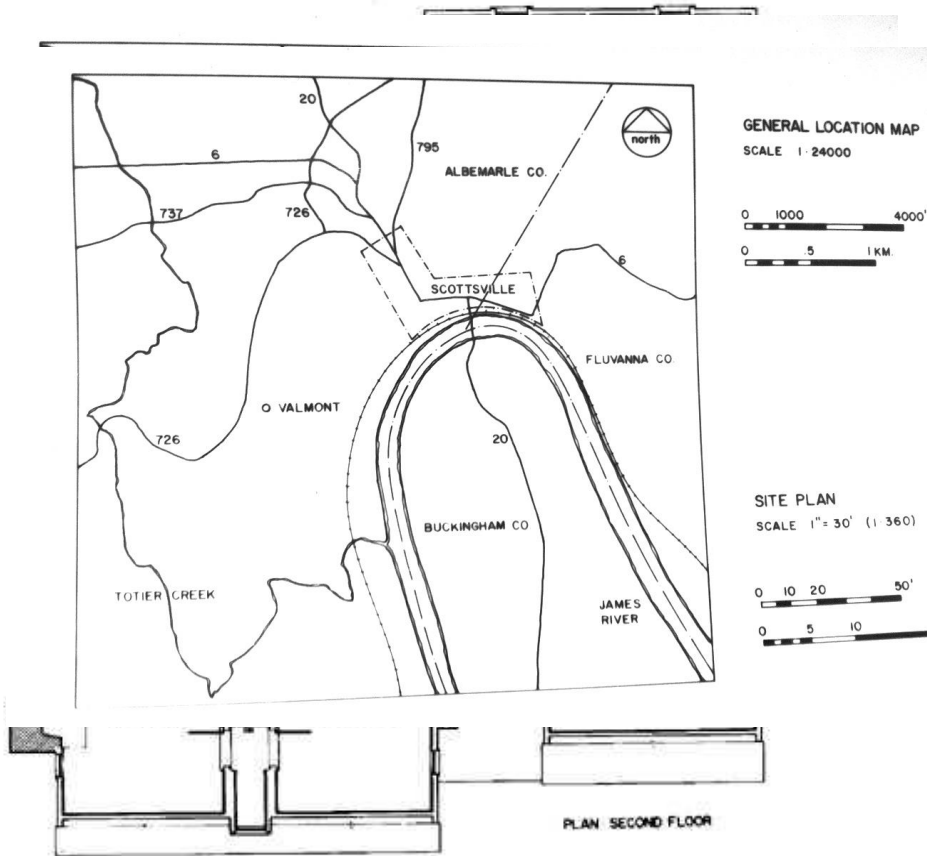
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3. "Belle Grove, plans"⁵ by Floyd E. Johnson



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4. Maps of Valmont with respect to the surrounding counties⁶.



Chain and deed transactions between Valmont owners and trustees⁶:

Owner	Date	Notes
Scott family; Edward Scott, John Scott III	1745-1821	family after which Scottsville was named
William Moon	1821-1831	
Peyton Harrison	1831-1840s	the name Valmont now refers to the entire 526 acre farm
James M. Garnett	until 1852	land located north and east of Oakwood across Totier Creek

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Owner	Date	Notes
John and Henry Gantt	1852-1870	purchases 508 acres of land from Garnett to add to his land holdings,
John S. White, F.S. Durrant and W.W. Brown	1870-1886	called the land Belmont and lists five dwelling houses, barn, stables
Pattie Gantt	1886-1887	508 acres at public auction
Thomas Martin	1887-1891	“owned by late Henry Gantt at the time of his death”; to secure debt to Pitts and Dorrier
David H. Pitts and William Dorrier	1891-1928	purchases land from Gantt due to bankruptcy of the former owner; half a share of Valmont is given to Pitts in 1908; he then establishes residency there

Name Index:

Agee, Mrs. L.R.
 Alexander, Travis
 Alvis, G.M.
 Anderson, D.W.
 Baber, G.
 Ballowe, C.C.
 Ballowe, C.E.
 Beal, J.T.
 Beal, Miss Julia
 Beal, Miss Mamie
 Bell, A.G.
 Bishop, James H.
 Black, R.L.
 Bowles, Mrs. A.P.
 Boyd, Mrs. Lula P.
 Brady, Miss Mary
 Bragg, J.M.
 Briggs, G.W.
 Briggs, J.A.

Briggs, Mrs. G.W.
 Brockenborough, Mrs. V.A.
 Brockenborough, V.A.
 Browning, J.W.
 Burgess, John H.
 Butler, Philip
 Butler, S.S.
 Davis, JohnS.
 Dorrier, William
 Carter, Jacob
 Cary, George W.
 Cocke, Miss Sallie
 Coleman, J.B.
 Copper, Mrs. H.C.
 Cleland, Frank
 Clements, Everett
 Clements, Joe
 Clements, Miss M.O.
 Clements, Miss Maggie

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Cleveland, William James	Hurt, Eddie
Daniel, Reverend J.R.	Jackson, Annie Wyatt
Davis, John S.	Jackson, Seay
Dawson, J.L.	Jefferies, V.B.
Dillard, G.M.	Johnson, Mr. Walter
Dorrier, William	Johnson, Prince
Drewry, Clay Jr.	Jones, B.H.
Dudley, William	Jones, Florence
Escue, L.H.	Kent, J.B.
Falconer, Herbert	Kidd, George L.
Faris, R.J.	Kidd, John W.
Farrar, J.H.	Knight, Mrs. Josephine
Farrar, Miss Annie	Laird, W.H.
Farrar, Miss E.W.	Lane, A.L.
Flanagan, A.S.	Lane, H.L.
Fontaine, Miss Pattie	Lane, J.E.
Forsythe, H.D.	Langhorne, D.A.
Fox, Mrs. Browning	Langhorne, D.W.
Fox, Reverend J.F.	Langhorne, Mrs. D.A.
Fox, J.H.	Lewis, Armstead
Fox, Mrs. J.H.	Lewis, C.B.
Frye, Mrs. Annie D.	Lewis, G.W.
Gantt, S.R.	Lewis, James R.
Garrison, W.E.	Londeree, W.P.
Garros, Charles H.	Llewellyn, Charles M.
Gentsch, Louis	Lynch, Mrs. Dora
Gilbert, Thomas J.	Mallory, Ross
Goode, Thomas F.	Mallory, W.E.
Goodman, J.M.	Martin, Honorable Thomas S.
Graham, J.N.	Martin, John S.
Hamner, R.L.	Martin, Mrs. M.A.
Hancocke, D.W.	Martin, Mrs. Thomas S.
Harris, E.B.	May, Lee
Harrison, R. Porter	Mayo, E.E.
Hart, Dr. James O.	McCary, Reese
Heath, Miles T.	Melton, A.L.
Heath, T.W.	Melton, Atey
Heath, W. Scott	Merrick, Mrs. W.G.
Herndon, Spencer	Merrick, W.G.
Hickok, Miss Willis E.	Moon, Charles T.
Hill, J.C.	Moon, M. Alice
Hill, Miss N.M.	Moon, Mrs. John
Hill, Miss William	Moon, William H.
Hill, Mrs. J.C.	Morris, J.G.
Huffman, J.S.	Mosely, M.L.A.
Hughes, Captain J.M.	Napier, W.C.
Hughes, Mrs. J.M.	Nicholas, J.W.
Hurt, Captain John	Noel, J.T.

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Norvell, R.D.
Oliver, Thomas H.
Osborne, Mrs.
Patterson, R.D.
Payne, W.T.
Pendleton, Mrs. O.R.
Pereira, J.R.
Phillips, R.C
Pitts, D.H.
Pitts, J.
Pitts, L.M.
Pitts, Mrs. Helen
Poor, J.P.
Poor, T.A.
Powers, Mrs. D.P.
Pugh, W.E.
Quick, Mrs. Fanny
Ragland, H.W.
Ramsey, Miss Betty
Randolph, Hudson
Rhodes, D.L.
Robertson, Elvis
Robinson, George W.
Robinson, Tom J.

Scruggs, D.L.
Shaw, C.P.
Shepherd, W.H.
Shultz, John
Snapp, E.E.
Snapp, R.L.
Stagg, Thomas E.
Staples, Silas
Starke, Ashton
Stegar, W.L.
Tapscott, George A.
Terrell, Charles
Tillman, Samuel
Thompson, James
Thompson, Willie
Thompson, Jacob Wyatt
Tompkins, John
Tompkins, Mrs. Nellie
Turner, Jim
Ward, Mrs. Alex
Ward, H.O.
White, Miss W.C.
Wilmer, W.N.
Zimmerman, William

Business Name Index:

Adolphus Blair & Sons
Albemarle County
Allen, W.T. & Company
Allison & Addison
Armorer & Company
Baltimore Bargain House
Barber & Perkins
Barker Jennings Hardware Company
C&O Railroad Company
C. Slate Company
Christian Winfree Company
Clark Hardware Company
Cosby Menefee & Company
Deering Harvester Company
Drewry Hughes Company
E.C. Butler & Company
Empire Drill Company
Etchison, Bates, & Starke
Farmers Supply Company
Good Roads Machinery Company
Harris Woodson & Company

Hurt, S.C. & Sons
Johnson & Briggs & Pitts
Kinner Montgomery & Company (Lynchburg, Virginia)
Lane Brothers and Company
Livering Coffee Company
Long & Riddick
McFarlan Carriage Company
Moore, J.D. & Sons
Morrison Tent & Awning Company
Myers, S.F. & Company
National Biscuit Company
Oliver Chilled Plow Works
Owens & Minor Drug Company
Perrow Evans & Company
Purcell, Ladd & Company
Rodwell, Morris, & Woods Company
Rountree, H.W. & Brothers
Saunders, A.E. & Sons
Saunders & Chambers
S.C. Hurt & Son

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Scottsville National Bank
Song & Riddick
South Bend Iron Company
Standard Oil Company
Stephen Putney Shoe Company
Taylor Made Clothing Company
The Caldwell Machine Company

Valmont Farm
W.S. Donnan Hardware Company (Richmond,
Virginia)
Walter A. Wood, M & R. M. Company
Warner Moore & Company
Williams, James T. & Sons
Wood, T.W. & Sons

References:

1. "Scottsville Baptist Church Cemetery". ScottsvilleMuseum.com. Web. Jul. 2013.
2. "Colonel Henry Gantt of Valmont". ScottsvilleMuseum.com. Web. Jul. 2013.
3. "The Dorrier Building". ScottsvilleMuseum.com. Web. Jul. 2013.
4. "Scottsville History" Historical Happenings in Albemarle County, Virginia: Saving the Past for the Future. Wordpress.org. Dec 22 2007. Web. Jul 23 2013.
5. Johnson, Floyd E. "Belle Grove". Photographs and drawings.
6. Troxell, Robert, and K. Edward Lay. Daniel Scott House : Valmont. [Charlottesville, Va.: School of Architecture, University of Virginia, 1975.
7. Virginia Historical Magazine; letter, Mrs. Stella Pitts Pruett.