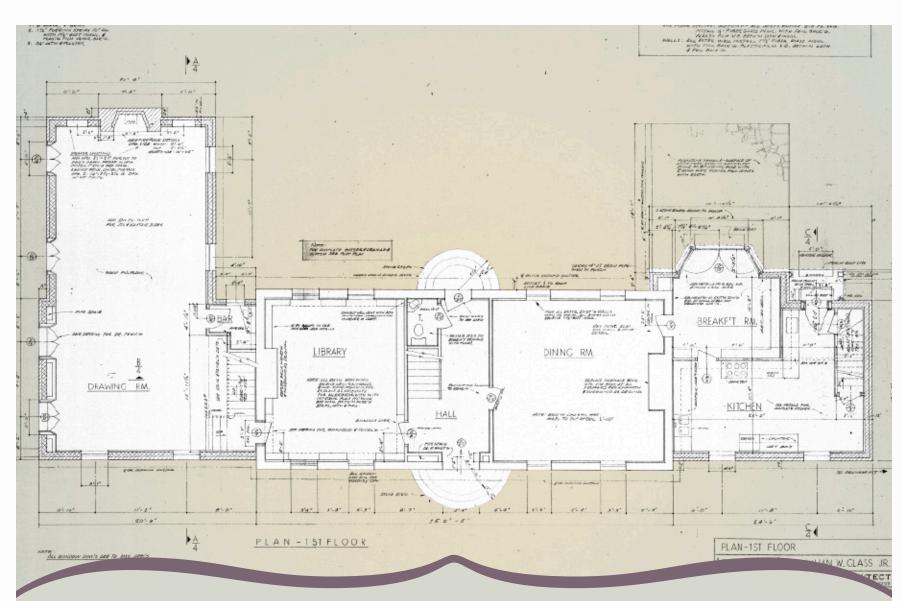
In the 1800s, later generations of the family added wings of various shapes and sizes to each end of the original house as well as porches with decorative trim. The Wood and Glass families changed Glen Burnie House dramatically over the course of its 220-year history.



When Julian Wood Glass Jr. acquired the house in the 1950s, he worked with Winchester architect Clarke Thomas Cooper Jr. to replace the earlier additions with new wings. The men reworked the floor plan to fulfill Julian and Lee's vision of Glen Burnie House as a country estate.



The Dining Room of the Glen Burnie House as it looked when the house opened to the public in 1997.

THE HISTORY OF— S Glen Burnie

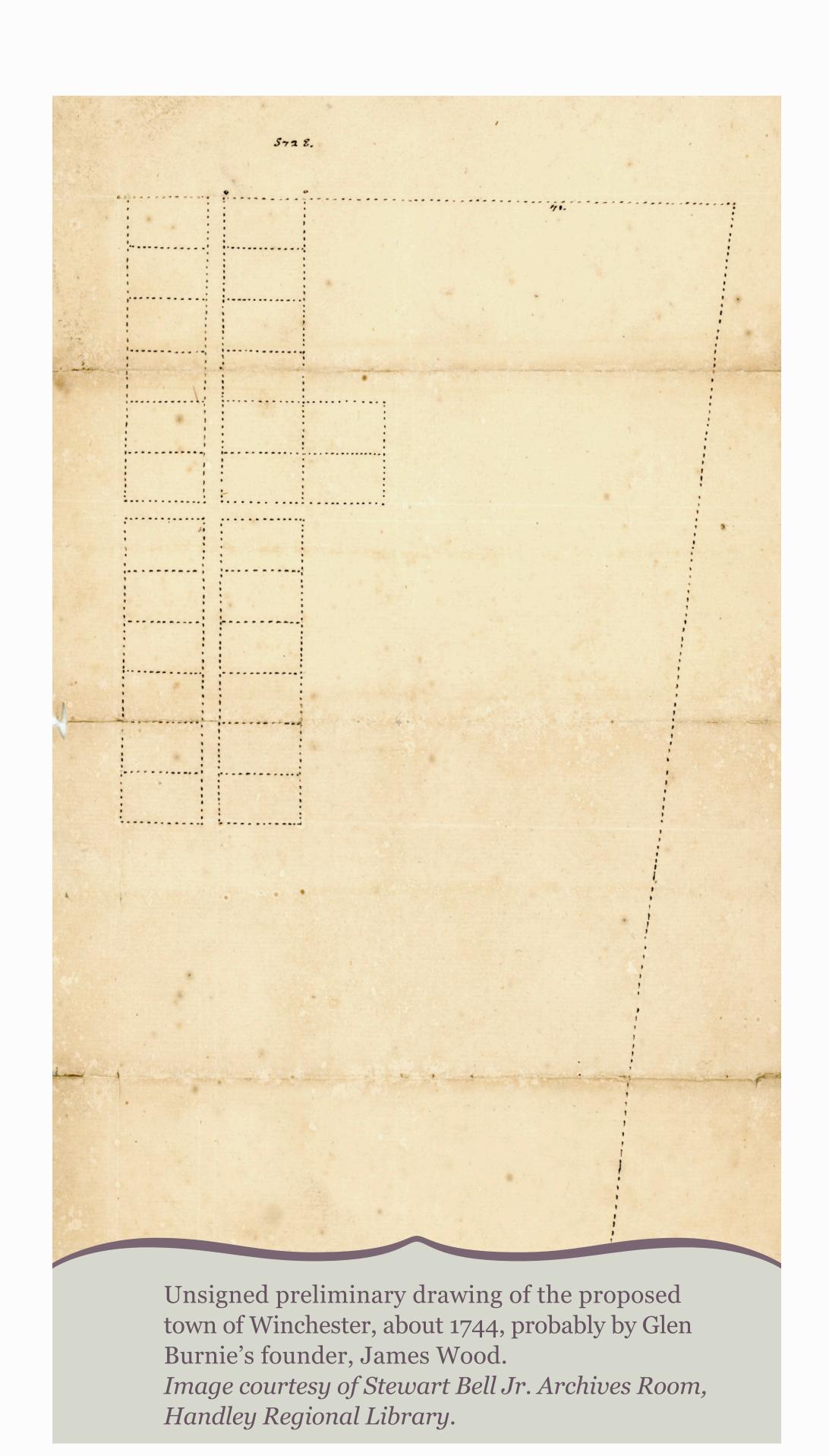
"HE WAS UNAMBITIOUS OF BEING KNOWN BEYOND HIS OWN FIRESIDE, AND THERE HE WAS DESERVEDLY ADORED. HIS HEART, HIS SOUL, HIS EVERY FACULTY BELONGED TO HIS FAMILY, AND TO THEM WERE IN THE FIRST PLACE FAITHFULLY GIVEN."

LAURENCE AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON WRITING ABOUT HIS FATHER-IN-LAW, ROBERT WOOD, 1820

Constructed in 1793, this is one of the oldest rooms in the house. That year, Robert Wood, youngest son of Winchester founder Colonel James Wood, built a simple, two-story house with a side hallway. The next year, Wood added a second, two-story portion on the other side of the hall. Robert Wood built this room as a parlor to be used like we would a living room or family room today. Most recently, his descendent Julian Wood Glass Jr. and his partner R. Lee Taylor used it as a dining room.

— JAMES WOOD — (Settler & Surveyor (

Imagine the scene outside the nearby window as it looked almost 300 years ago, with no roads, cars, or buildings. It was this landscape and the freshwater spring nearby that drew the eye of surveyor James Wood. In his early career, Wood surveyed tens of thousands of acres, but this was the land he chose for himself. By 1735 Wood applied to British authorities to be granted 1,241 acres near Opequon Creek. Nine years later, Wood laid out 26 half-acre lots that became the town of Winchester.



of the House

Nan "Nannie" Campbell Glass and her daughter Katherine "Kate" Glass Greene were two of the capable women associated with Glen Burnie. In 1759 Mary Rutherford Wood inherited her husband James Wood's property and successfully managed the estate for several years before dividing it among her children. Her grandson William Wood Glass married Nannie Campbell in 1865. Their daughter Kate was a historian and published author. She founded and managed a local school for girls, the Fort Loudoun Female Seminary.



Nan "Nannie" Rebecca Campbell in the early 1860s, before her marriage to William Wood Glass. A devout Christian, Nannie wrote and published religious poetry.



Katherine Glass Greene in a studio photograph by Moreno R. Lopez, 4 East 14th St., New York, about 1890. In the absence of her brother, Julian Wood Glass Sr., who inherited shares of Glen Burnie but lived in Oklahoma, Kate also managed the farm.

— GLEN BURNIE'S— Enslaved People

Before the Civil War, each generation of the Wood family at Glen Burnie depended on enslaved people of African descent to work on the farm and in the house. Account books record purchases and sales of men, women, and children and taxes paid for them. After James Wood's widow Mary inherited the estate, she emancipated five of the slaves and later willed seventeen more slaves to her children and grandchildren. In the inventory of her son Robert's estate, two people are noted as having various terms "to serve," while five others are listed as "slave[s] for life." The post-war 1870 census included four members of an African American family still working at Glen Burnie.



Fighting between the Union and the Confederacy brought the Civil War to the grounds just outside these walls as regiments from both sides variously encamped here. The hardships of battle and occupation depleted the once thriving farm and took their toll on its occupants. During the war, the elderly William Wood, son of Glen Burnie house-builder Robert Wood, was living in the house with his two unmarried sisters, Harriot and Julia. Local diarist Cornelia McDonald wrote in 1862, "A sad old house that is of Mr. Wood's with the family graveyard not a hundred yards from the yard gate. It will not be long before they are all laid there, for the three that are left of the family are old and feeble."