

<p>1. STATE <b>Virginia</b>          COUNTY <b>Fairfax</b>          TOWN _____ VICINITY <b>Sunset Hills</b>          STREET NO. <b>Sunset Hills, Virginia</b></p> <p>ORIGINAL OWNER <b>A. Smith-Bowman, Sr.</b>          ORIGINAL USE <b>Distillery</b>          PRESENT OWNER <b>A. Smith Bowman Distillery, Inc.</b>          PRESENT USE <b>Bourbon Distillery</b>          WALL CONSTRUCTION <b>Brick, wood, block, steel</b>          NO. OF STORIES <b>Building complex</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY #172</p> <p>2. NAME <b>A. Smith Bowman Bourbon Distillery</b></p> <p>DATE OR PERIOD <b>1890-1967</b>          STYLE <b>---</b>          ARCHITECT <b>Unknown</b>          BUILDER <b>Unknown</b></p> <p>3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE</p>
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4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC **No**

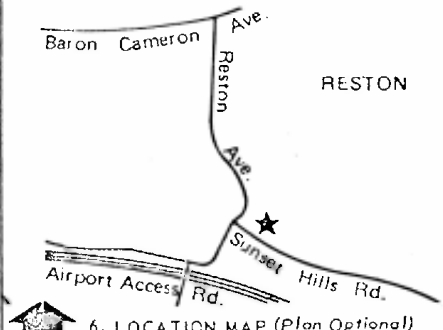
In March 1934, when prohibition was repealed, A. Smith Bowman and his sons applied for a permit to manufacture distilled liquors on the Sunset Hills farm which had originally been purchased by Mr. Bowman for beef and dairy farming in 1927. The first bottled-in-bond bourbon, aged four years, was sold to the public in 1938. The first distillery was located in the old soapstone mill, which survived from the days of the Town of Wiehle, planned in 1890. The storage buildings are of brick. Warehouse A was once a stable; B was a millwork shop; C was a warehouse; and D was the old Town Hall.

Of the four bourbon distilleries which existed in Virginia before World War II, only this one is still in operation. There are approximately 100 licensed bourbon distilleries in the U. S. In 1966, builders were engaged to construct a new distillery building of cinder block and steel. The original 1935 distilling vats and stills were installed in it. From this plant 12,000 50-gallon barrels of bourbon are produced each year. A bottling house of brick was built in 1966 and the corrugated steel warehouse has a storage capacity of over 1,000,000 gallons.

The remains of the mash, the stillage, is pumped off and fed to the beef cattle, thus recycling the waste from the grain which was grown on the farm.

A Federal revenue man's daily presence confirms that "Fairfax County" and "Virginia Gentleman" are pure, 100 proof bourbon, "bottled in bond."

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered **No** Interior **Good** Exterior **Good**



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)



7. PHOTOGRAPH **N. Netherton, 1972**

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)  
 INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.  
 See Virginia Collection files, Fairfax County Public Library.  
 Historical Society of Fairfax County, Virginia, Inc., Yearbook, 1958-59.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER  
**Mrs. Ross D. Netherton**  
**Fairfax County Division of Planning**  
**4100 Chain Bridge Road**  
**Fairfax, Virginia**  
 DATE OF RECORD **2/24/72**