



**JOHN BALL HOUSE**  
IN 1762 JOHN BALL RECEIVED  
A 100-ACRE LAND GRANT FROM  
LORD FAIRFAX AND BECAME ONE  
OF THE FIRST SETTLERS IN THE  
AREA. THE OLDEST PORTION OF THE  
PRESENT HOUSE IS A LOG CABIN  
BUILT BY BALL'S GRANDFATHER  
IN THE 17TH CENTURY. THE HOUSE  
WAS REBUILT IN 1772 BY JOHN  
BALL IN 1772. SIX YEARS AFTER  
BALL DEPARTED THE PROPERTY WAS  
ACQUIRED BY WILLIAM GAULIN  
ONCE GEORGE WASHINGTON WAS  
TAKEN THE GAULIN FAMILY WAS  
ASSOCIATED WITH THE AREA FOR  
OVER A CENTURY. THE HOUSE  
THE TWO-STORY PORTION OF THE  
HOUSE WAS BUILT ABOUT 1825  
BY MRS. MARIAN SELLECK.  
THE LAST PRIVATE OWNER  
DONATED THE PROPERTY TO THE  
ARLINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY.



## Proposal for the Ball-Sellers House

The Arlington Historical Society would like to place a brass plaque or “stumbling stone” in the corner between the sidewalk and brick pathway of the Ball-Sellers House to honor the enslaved people who lived and worked at the house in the nineteenth century. The stone is based on those created in Germany to memorialize Holocaust victims. The enslaved individuals we hope to memorialize are: Nancy, born ca. 1775 and died between 1831-1840 (Fig. 1), a male whose name is unknown – born between 1806 and 1820, and a male whose name is unknown born in 1844. These will be the first stones placed in Arlington as part of the Historical Society’s project, Memorializing the Enslaved in Arlington, 1669-1865. We hope to place “stumbling stones” throughout the county at the many locations where slavery occurred.

The plaques will be placed on concrete or stone, set in the ground, and surrounded by gravel. See Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 for examples of what the embedded plaques will look like.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3