

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2895

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic "Rockwood"  
 other Langenfelder Farm

### 2. Location

street and number 7405 Longfield Drive not for publication  
 city, town Kingsville  vicinity  
 county Baltimore County

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Anne Langenfelder Estate  
 street and number P.O. Box 143 telephone  
 city, town Kingsville state MD zip code 21087-0143

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 55-440  
 city, town Towson liber 6929 folio 435

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report
- Other

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	7	0
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	0	1
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	0	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	7	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>	
			0	

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## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2895

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### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

“Rockwood” (the Langenfelder Farm) is located at 7405 Longfield Drive near Kingsville in northeastern Baltimore County, Maryland. The farm consists of a stuccoed house, a stone and frame carriage house now converted to a dwelling, a frame carriage house, a corn crib, a poultry house, and a stone garage. The farm is located at the top of a hill on the west side of Bel Air Road and faces southeast toward the road. It is now surrounded by new development.

The house is a 2 ½-story, five-bay by four-bay stuccoed masonry structure with a raised basement and a hip roof with slate. There is a one-story porch that wraps around the southeast, northeast, and southwest elevations. It has Doric columns and has been enlarged and in-filled on the southwest and the south half of the southeast with two-light sliding sash. The center bay of the southeast elevation of the porch has brick steps, and a pediment on the roof. The southeast elevation on the first story has a pair of doors with one light over one lying panel in the center bay. There is a concrete sill and a two-light transom. There are one-over-one sash with wood sills and exterior blinds. The second story has five one-over-one sash like the first story. The roof has deep eaves with a large block cornice. There is a center dormer with a hip roof, block cornice, slate, and three one-over-one sash. There is an interior brick chimney just east of the dormer and an exterior brick chimney on the southwest. The center of the roof has a widow's walk with an iron railing in the center.

*The southwest elevation foundation has stuccoed CMUs under the porch, but the original foundation of the house is rubble stone.* The first story is all infill with sliding windows and a door. The second story has five one-over-one sash with extra space between the south and south-center bays where an extra brick chimney is. There is an interior stucco chimney at the west. The roof has a dormer in the center with two one-over-one sash, and a hip roof that matches the southeast dormer. The northwest elevation has a porte cochere attached to the center and west-center bays, with two Doric columns on rubble stone piers. There is a hip roof that extends to the west and connects with the southwest porch roof. The first story has a center entrance with a five-lying-panel door and a panel in the transom. The second story has five one-over-one sash. On the northeast elevation the first story has three one-over-one sash and a door in the east-center bay that has five lying panels and a panel in the transom. The second story has four one-over-one sash and the dormer matches the southwest elevation.

There is a dwelling that was probably originally a carriage house located about 70 feet northwest of the house. It is a two-story, four-bay by one-bay structure with rubble stone on the first story, board-and-batten siding on the second story, and a gable roof with a northeast-southwest ridge and slate. The southeast elevation, on the first story, has a new door with nine-lights over a cross buck in the east-center bay, with a porch over it that has a shed roof on iron supports. There is a small two-light sash to each side, set high on the wall, and a six-over-six sash near the south corner. The second story has a six-over-six sash in the two end bays. The southwest elevation has no opening on the first story and a window in the center of the second story that is covered by ivy. On the northwest elevation the first story has three two-light sash set high on the wall and a door in the west bay that has nine lights over a cross buck. There is a shed roof porch of four bays with five wood posts and asphalt shingles. The second story has a one-over-one sash in the north bay, a two-light sash set high on the wall in the north-center bay and a four-over-four sash between the west-center and west bays. There is an interior brick chimney in the north corner. The first story of the northeast elevation has two new picture windows with a parged wall below and between them, and a pent roof above with asphalt shingles. There is a six-over-six sash in the center of the second story.

There is a carriage house about 75 feet northwest of the tenant house/carriage house. It is a two-story, three-bay by one-bay frame structure with asphalt shingle siding and a gable roof with a northwest-southeast ridge and asphalt shingles. On the southwest elevation all three bays of the first story are open. The second story has a vertical-board door in the center with a six-over-six sash that has head cut trim to each side of the door. The northwest elevation has no openings on the first story and a six-over-six sash on the second. The southeast elevation has a row of long one-story sheds attached to the first story. These sheds have a gable roof, asphalt shingles, a northwest-southeast ridge, and board-and-batten siding. The second story has a six-light sash. The northeast elevation has three six-over-six sash on both the first and second stories. The first story has an enclosed straight run of stairs at the

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southeast end leading to the second story. The building is constructed with 6 by 6 posts and 4 by 4 braces that are circular-sawn and wire-nailed. The joists are 2 by 6. There is vertical-board siding that is circular-sawn and has gaps between the boards beneath the asphalt shingles.

There is a corncrib about 20 feet southwest of the frame carriage house. It is a three-bay by one-bay frame structure set on tile pipe posts, with circular-sawn vertical slats and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a northwest-southeast ridge. The northeast elevation has a door in the center hung on machine-made strap hinges. The door is made of slats like the siding. There is a small hatch on butterfly hinges set high on the wall to each side of the door. The northwest and southeast elevations each have one identical hatch, and there are no openings on the southwest elevation.

About 8 feet northwest of the corncrib is a frame poultry house with asbestos shingle siding, a shed roof that slopes down to the northwest and has asphalt shingles, two screened openings on the southeast, and a doorway on the northeast. There is an identical second poultry house about 30 feet northwest of the first, and it is turned so the roof slopes down to the northeast.

The garage is located about 100 feet west of the house. It is a one-story, one-bay by three-bay structure with rubble stone on the southeast and northwest walls, with a terra cotta tile parapet on top of them, and plain rubble stone on the southwest elevation. The southeast elevation has a door in the center and a glass block window to each side. The northeast elevation is open, with a steel I-beam lintel and a CMU parapet above that contains cast concrete finials on each end. The northwest elevation has a glass block window in the north bay. The southwest elevation has no openings.

## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

unknown

Construction dates 1914

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

"Rockwood," the Frank Gorsuch Farm, (more commonly known today as the Langenfelder Farm), was part of a 118-acre farm purchased by Kingsville storekeeper William Dilworth in 1897. It was, and would remain under his ownership, a tenant farm. After Dilworth's death the farm and store were offered for sale. The farm, which had 65 acres under cultivation and the rest in timber, was "... Improved by two tenant houses, one of frame and the other of stone." Frank Gorsuch and Joseph H. Gorsuch purchased it in 1902, for \$3,000.00. The Gorsuch family had relatives, and apparently roots, in Kingsville, but Joseph Gorsuch ran the Central Transfer Company in Baltimore, and his son, Frank M., worked for him and lived in the city. Frank Gorsuch hired Benjamin Bowen of Long Green to manage the farm for him, and shortly bought his father's interest in the property. Frank Gorsuch eventually became president of his father's company, and spent summers in Kingsville, but continued to live in Baltimore in the winter. Probably in 1913 construction began on a new house on the farm, and in May, 1914, it was reported that "Mr. Frank M. Gorsuch's large stone house at Kingsville, equipped with all modern conveniences, is nearing completion, and Mr. and Mrs. Gorsuch and Frank, Jr., expect to occupy it by June 1." By the middle of June they had moved in, and apparently stayed there year-round. As yet, it is not known who was responsible for the design and construction of the dwelling. (1)

Gorsuch probably took the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad from nearby Baldwin into Baltimore, but the impetus to move permanently to Kingsville was probably driven by the State of Maryland's acquisition of the old Baltimore and Jerusalem Turnpike and conversion into present-day Belair Road. The turnpike company's assets were acquired in 1911, but it took several years before improvements were made. In August 1913 a Kingsville correspondent wrote: "Work has at last been started on the Bel Air road, for which the travelers over that thoroughfare are deeply thankful, as it is in an almost impassable condition." If work had truly begun, it did not last long. In April 1914 another correspondent noted that a stone crusher had been moved to the area, and that work would begin immediately. By May, teams were hauling stone and shacks and tents were going up along the route to house the workmen, but the stone crusher had not "gotten steam up yet." By the end of May, however, road work was being pushed ahead by a large contingent of workmen, from Perry Hall north into Harford County. By the end of July it was reported that the work would soon be complete to Quinlan's Corner, which was probably at Mount Vista Road, just south of "Rockwood." Thus, shortly after moving in to his new home, it was possible for Frank Gorsuch to more easily commute to work in downtown Baltimore by using the ever more popular automobile on one of the most modern roads in the region. (2)

During the Depression Frank Gorsuch apparently got into financial difficulty and his property went into receivership. His farm was advertised for sale in 1933, and described as: "Improved by an eight-room stucco house, slate roof, and completed attic, consisting of four rooms, wash room and lavatory on the first floor and four rooms and bath on the second floor; two car garage, barn, stable and two tenant houses." Also offered for sale were farm implements and livestock, including a Fordson tractor, Deering binder, McCormick mower, plows, spring tooth and disc harrows, cultivators, a grain drill, lime sower, corn worker,

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potato planter, two mules, two cows, a heifer and a calf. This not only indicates that Gorsuch was running a farm as well as his business in Baltimore, and gives some view into his operation. Few farmers in Maryland had tractors at this time, so Gorsuch was in the advance in this regard, but some of his machinery was likely still being pulled by the mules he owned. He seemed to be focusing on crops rather than livestock, and likely had several others providing much of the labor on the farm, while living in the two tenant houses that survived from when he purchased the property. The disposition of these buildings is not known at this time. The garage, which survives, was likely built at the same time as the house, in 1914. The stable is likely the existing tenant house just behind the stucco house. Several features of this building indicate that it was originally used for stabling horses and storing carriages, including the small windows set high on the wall of the first story, and the wide opening at the end of the building, now filled in with a modern bay window. This building likely was standing when Gorsuch acquired the farm, or was added right after for his own use. The other outbuildings were likely added by Gorsuch as well, as their construction is consistent with an early twentieth century date. The farm is not only a good example of a progressive farm from the first quarter of the twentieth century, but also illustrates the continued attraction of farming among Baltimore's business community with rural roots. The connection between city and country remained much closer at this time than many observers realize. (3)

Burdette Oles, the owner of Oles Envelope Corp. in Baltimore, purchased "Rockwood" from the receivers. In 1935 Oles added 75 acres of a farm known in the nineteenth century as "Bell Valley." Edward J. Bell assembled the land in the 1850s and sold it to David Bell in 1898. David, however, moved to Hamilton, in Ontario, Canada, so the property apparently became a tenant farm. Lehman Dilworth, who had earlier purchased his father's store when Frank Gorsuch had bought his father's farm, purchased it in 1914. Lehman Dilworth sold much of the "Bell Valley" farm to Oles, but it is not known what, if any, buildings may have been included with the property. The Bell Valley house, now known as Grupy Hollow, was on another piece of land. At this time the farm was called "Oak Ridge Farms," and raised registered holsteins. There was a large gambrel-roofed barn, and a formal garden in front of the house, where the swimming pool is now. Both tractors and horses were used in the farming operation. Both of Dilworth's tracts were sold to George Langenfelder in 1961. He was, appropriately enough, in road construction. The Langenfelder family developed much of the farm recently. (4)

### Endnotes:

- 1.)  Baltimore County Land Records, NBM 262-15; WPC 275-138. Baltimore County (Maryland) Union, 8 March 1902, p. 2, col. 6; 29 March 1902, p. 3, col. 5; 3 May 1902, p. 3, col. 3; 13 June 1914, p. 8, col. 1. Baltimore City Directories, 1902, 1914, 1915. Towson (Maryland) Democrat and Journal, 16 May 1914, p. 1, col. 4. Edward Bell, Wheat was my Life, (Bozeman, Montana: Author, 1981), pp. 1-8. I am indebted to Kimberly Abe for bringing this to my attention.
- 2.)  George W. Hilton, The Ma & Pa: A History of the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad, 2nd ed. (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999). William Hollifield, Difficulties Made Easy: History of the Turnpikes of Baltimore City and County (Cockeysville, MD: Baltimore County Historical Society, 1978), pp. 18-80. Towson (Maryland) Union News, 30 August 1913, p. 8, col. 3; 11 April 1914, p. 8, col. 4; 30 May 1914, p. 8, col. 1; 25 July 1914, p. 8, col. 2. Towson (Maryland) Democrat and Journal, 2 May 1914, p. 8, col. 5; 9 May 1914, p. 8, col. 5; 16 May 1914, p. 1, col. 4; 23 May 1914, p. 8, col. 5.
- 3.)  Towson (Maryland) Jeffersonian, 6 October 1933, p. 10, col. 1.
- 4.)  John McGrain, "Grupy's Hollow Building," BA-240, Maryland Inventory of Historic Places, 1995. Bell, Wheat was my Life, pp. 1-8. Personal communication with John Oberender, grandson of Burdette Oles, September, 2004. Baltimore County Land Records, CWB, Jr., 934-268; CWB, Jr., 956-40; WJR 3900-38.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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See continuation sheet.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 5.14 acres  
Acreage of historical setting 118 acres  
Quadrangle name White Marsh Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary includes the entire remaining parcel, which was subdivided and developed, leaving numerous outbuildings surrounding the house.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title	Kenneth M. Short		
organization		date	9/1/04
street and number	610 Register Avenue	telephone	410-377-4953
city or town	Baltimore	state MD	zip code 21212

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032  
410-514-7600

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. BA-2895

Name "Rockwood"

Continuation Sheet

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See footnotes

7405 Longfield Dr.  
CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Equitable Bank, et al trustees of marital trust	Anne S. Langenfelder	1985	6929- 435	Deed- fee S.	\$400,000	① 117 A ② 1.4845 A ③ 75.58 A.	
Equitable Trust Co et al execs of George H. Langenfelder	Equitable Trust Co, et al trustees of marital trust under will of G. H. L.	31 Mar. 1978	ETHK, Jr. 5878- 964	Deed- fee S.	\$5.00	① 117 A. ② 1.4845 A. ③ 75.58 A	Geo. d. 29 Nov. 1974 will JLD 145-223 22 Jan 1964
Lillian M. Oles, widow Balto Co & execs & trustees Burdette S. Oles / Balto Co	George H. Langenfelder Balto Co.	<del>1961</del> 26 Sept <del>1955</del> 1961	WJR 3900- 38	Deed- fee S.	\$5.00	① 117 A ② 1.4845 A ③ 75.58 A	B.S. O. d. 2 Oct. 1960
Lehman L. Dilworth & M. Matilda / Balto Co	Burdette S. Oles Balto Co.	2 May 1935	CWB, Jr. 956-40	Deed fee S.	\$5.00	75.58 A.	P/O. WPC 422-380 2 Jan 1914 Fr. ed. J. Bell 2/6
Maud V. Hilkey, widow	Burdette S. Oles	22 Aug. 1955	GLB 2764- 44				
Harry E. Kaur et al, receivers Loretta Gorsuch	Burdette S. Oles	20 July 1934	CWB Jr. 934- 268	Deed- fee S.	\$16,000	117 A.	Mary A. Gorsuch v. Frank M. Gorsuch, Circuit Ct 2, Balto City - Feb. 1933? Public sale 19 Oct. 1933? P/O Kingsville or Kingsville Farm
Edward I. Ward James J. Lindsay, trustees	Frank E. Gorsuch Joseph H. Gorsuch	30 Apr. 1902	NBM 262- <del>205 E</del> 15	Deed - fee S.	\$3,000	118 A	Circuit Ct. Balto Co. 26 Feb. Lehman Dilworth v. Emma Dilworth sold 25 Mar. 1902
Joseph H. Gorsuch & Margaret E. Balto City	Frank Gorsuch Balto City	9 Apr. 1904	WPC 275- 138	Deed - fee S.	\$10.00	118 A.	P/O. Kingsville Farm
Frank L.J. Freeman	William Dilworth	20 Mar. 1897	LMB 223- 173				
Edward J. Beel & Rose A. Dawson Montana	Lehman L. Dilworth & M. Matilda Balto Co.	25 Jan. 1914	WPC 422- 380	Deed- fee S.	\$5.00	88 A.	W. Side Belair Rd. nr. Kingsville, known as Bell Valley minus 2 1/2 A. sold 1910

262-  
1575-  
138

③

②

①

①

①

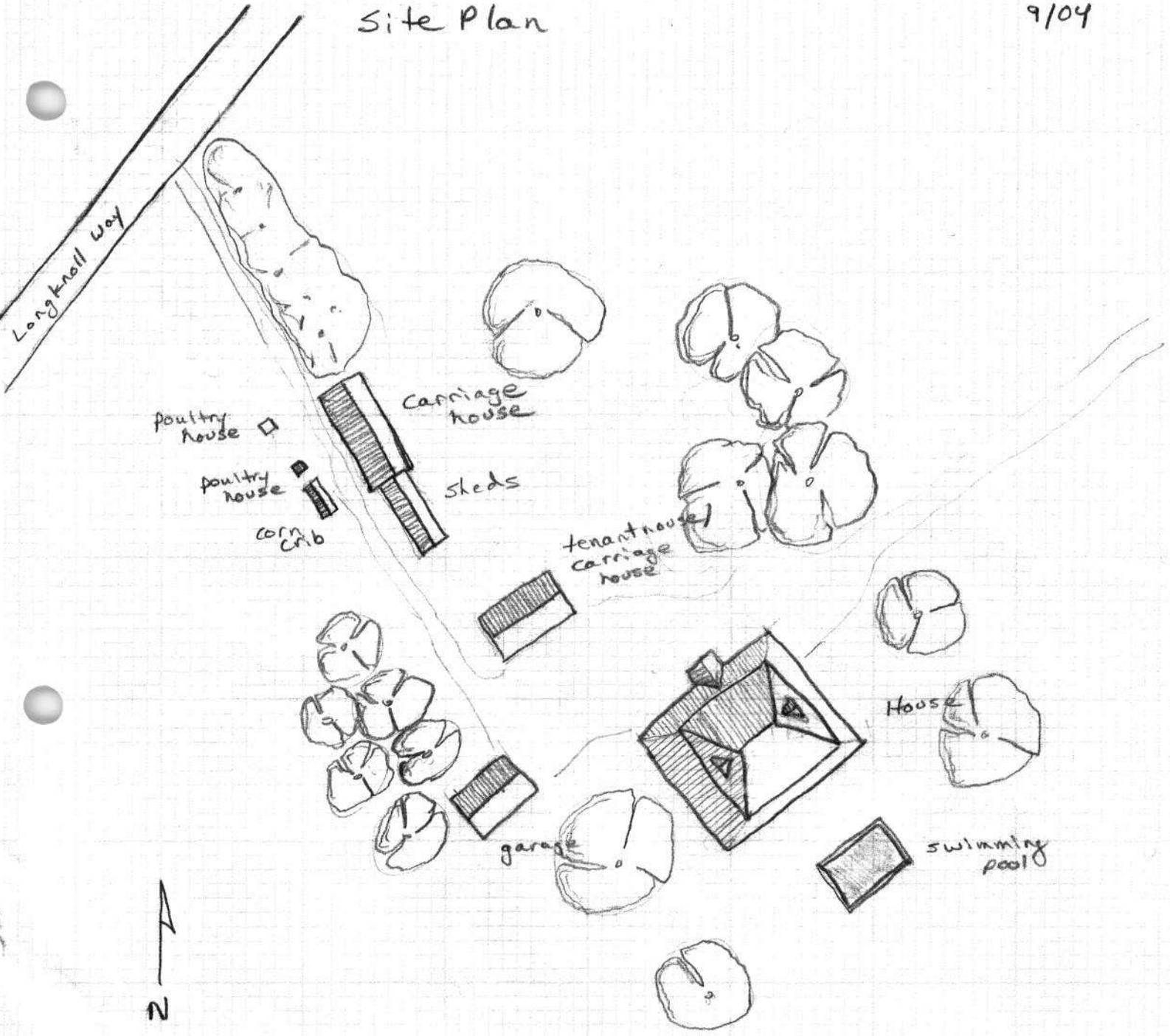
①

③



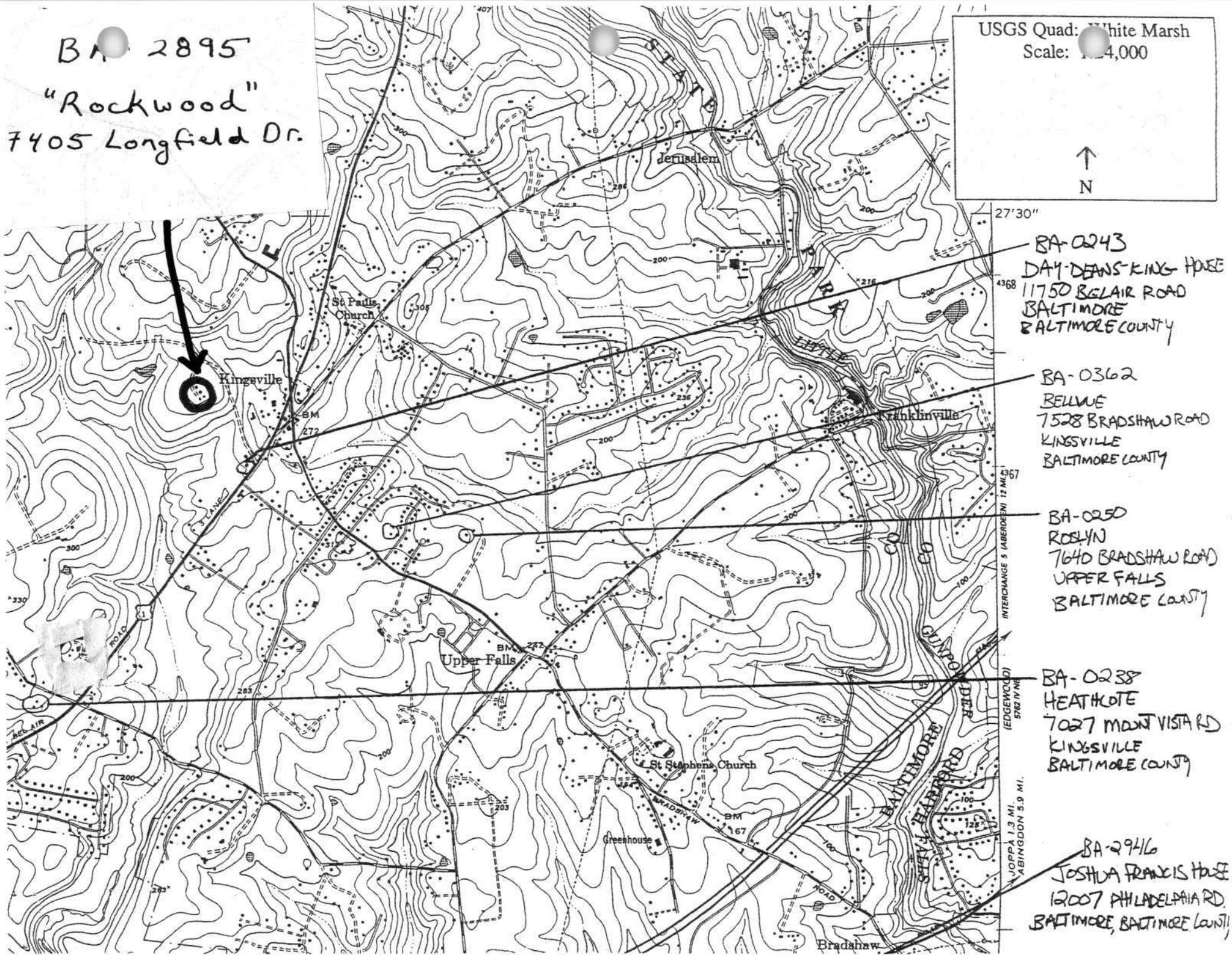
BA-2895 "Rockwood"  
Site Plan

KMS  
9/04



BM 2895  
"Rockwood"  
7405 Longfield Dr.

USGS Quad: White Marsh  
Scale: 24,000





BA-2895  
"Rockwood"  
7405 Longfield Dr.  
Balto. Co., MD  
Ken Short  
June 2004  
MD SHPO  
House - SE elev  
1/7

ART-2611  
175 1717  
<No. 29 >057  
<044>@



BA-2895

"Rockwood"

7405 Longfield Dr.

Balto. Co., MD

Ken Short

June 2004

MD SHPO

House. NE elev.

2/7

ART-2611 <NO. 30 >060  
175 1717 N N N+1-08 <044>@







BA. 2895

"Rockwood"

7405 Longfield Dr

Balto. Co., MD

Ken Short

June 2004

MD SHPO

Carriage Ho. - SE & NE elevs

4/7

ART-2611 <NO. 33 >066  
175 1212 N N N+1 12 <044>@



BA-2895

"Rockwood"

7405 Longfield Dr.

Balto. Co., MD

Ken Short

June 2004

MD SAPO

Carriage Ho. - NW & SW elevs

5/7

ART-2611 <NO. 34 >067  
175 1212 N N N-2 19 <044>@



BA-2895

"Rockwood"

7405 Longfield Dr.

Balto. Co., MD

Ken Short

June 2004

MD SHPO

Wagon Shed. NW & SW eaves

6/7

ART-2611 <NO.35> 869  
175 1212 N N N+1-37 (044)@

PAPER

PAPER



BA-2895

"Rockwood"

7405 Longfield Dr.

Balto. Co., MD

Ken Short

June 2004

MD SHPO

Corn Crib - NE & NW elevs

7/7

ART-2611 <NO. 36 >071  
175 1717 N N N-2-20 <044>@