

ADDENDUM

CH-120
The Plains
Charles County, MD
Dentsville vic.
Cathy Hardy, April 2003

7. Description

The survey data for The Plains was updated in 2002, at which time the interior was not available. The property was revisited in the spring of 2003 when the interior was evaluated. The interior includes a center passage, double-pile plan with double parlors to the south and a dining room and kitchen to the north. The entrance hall includes a narrow curved freestanding stair with a slender turned newel. During an extensive renovation in the 1980's much of the woodwork is believed to have been replaced with the current square-edged wood trim. A ventilation system was added, and wallboard was installed over the existing plaster. Original features include floors, second story mantels and several four-panel doors. Although the roofline and chimney construction is unusual, architectural evidence in the attic suggest a single construction period. According to family tradition, the home was constructed with reused material from a Gough family home in St. Mary's County known as Hamden.

8. Significance

The Plains is potentially significant for its association with the Civil War related history in Charles County. The dwelling is believed to have been constructed by William Henry Gough and his wife Lucinda Bean of Dent's Palace (CH-40). According to family oral tradition, William Henry Gough was a Confederate sympathizer who was involved with smuggling contraband in Southern Maryland.¹ Union soldiers are said to have visited The Plains in an attempt to arrest him in association with an incident in Popes Creek. While Gough was not home at the time of their arrival, the party hid while awaiting his return. Gough was shot in the altercation that ensued and later died as a result of these wounds. Lucinda Bean Gough went to Washington to seek reparations for the death of her husband in 1864. Limited research into Civil War official correspondence has not yet confirmed or denied the oral accounts.

Charles County was sensitively located between the northern or Unionist states and the southern, secessionist states. As a tobacco-dependant county, most landholders resented the pressure brought by abolitionists to free the slave population. In addition, unrest among the slaves prompted the Justice of the Peace to commence nightly patrols of the county in 1856. With the election of the Republican candidate for President, Abraham Lincoln, in 1860, the county became

¹ Oral accounts were conveyed by the current owner who is a descendent of William Henry Gough..

alarmed. A meeting was held at Middletown in December 1860, and the group resolved to censure those citizens who had voted for Lincoln. Although, as a state, Maryland voted to support the Union, Charles County maintained its Confederate sympathies throughout the war.

During the entire armed conflict that followed the secession of the southern states, Charles County was occupied by Union soldiers. Because of its southern sympathies, the county was treated like occupied territory. On June 20th, 1861, one hundred Federal troops landed at Chapel Point and proceeded to the residence of Captain Samuel Cox at "Rich Hill" where there was a stash of state-owned munitions. The troops demanded the surrender of the arms. Soon, the Fifth Regiment of General Sickles' Brigade came to Charles County, encamping at Mulberry Grove. In addition, some ten to twelve thousand troops were sent to the county to prevent the crossing of Confederate troops into Maryland over the Potomac River. The majority of these troops were stationed in the western section of the county between Mattawoman and Budd's Ferry. Batteries were built near the mouth of Chicamuxen Creek. Additionally, the Maryland volunteers of the Seventh Regiment Infantry, U.S. Colored Troops were stationed at Benedict where they were trained in 1863. This African-American regiment served throughout the remainder of the war, seeing active duty in all the subsequent major campaigns.²

Although no battles were fought on Charles County's soil, the citizens of the county made major contributions to the war, mainly on the side of the Confederates. A large number of the county's young men traveled to Richmond and joined the Confederate armies at the outset of the war. Several individual citizens aided the Confederate cause by ferrying people, supplies, and munitions across the Potomac River to Virginia. In addition, many Charles Countians took part in the transference of messages across the north-south border. Although the Federal government required the furnishing of soldiers from each county, most Charles Countians refused to fight on the side of the Union, sending purchased substitutes in their place. At times, the occupying Union troops had to discipline the rebellious citizens, sending many to Washington, DC for questioning.³ After the close of the armed conflict, Charles County remained in the spotlight as several citizens were convicted of conspiring to aid John Wilkes Booth in his flight from Washington, DC after the assassination of President Lincoln. Following the assassination, Charles County was once again occupied by several thousand Federal troops who attempted to locate and arrest any local conspirators.⁴

² Klapthor, et al., *History of Charles County Maryland*. 1958. pp. 122-129.

³ Klapthor, et al., pp. 123-130.

⁴ Klapthor, et al., pp. 130-134.

The Plains
CH-120
Charlotte Hall vic.
Private

Last quarter 19th century

The Plains is currently a 2-story front-gable-and-wing structure with unusual paired exterior end-chimneys on either end. The house likely incorporates an earlier structure probably built during the early 19th century. Standing adjacent to the 18th century Trinity Episcopal Parish (CH-123), The Plains has been associated with the Gough family since 1854 when William Gough purchased a number of tracts totaling 360 acres formerly belonging to Major James Latimer. The property remained in the Gough family until 1923 when it was sold to Robert P. Bowling. Recently the property has been acquired by Gough family descendants and is referred to as "Gough's Plains". Land records simply identifies the tract as "The Plains".

7. Description

Inventory No. CH-120

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 |

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

Formerly identified as the Robert Bowling House for the 20th century tenure of the Bowling family, the Plains is a 2-story frame front gable-and-wing dwelling standing near the Trinity Episcopal Church (CH-123), on a 16 acre lot. The house faces south onto Dubois Road and is approached by a straight lane bordered by a fenced pasture. Three non-contributing resources share the site including a stable to the west of the dwelling and two sheds to the rear.

Five bays in length with a centered entrance, this Victorian dwelling probably incorporates an earlier structure. Evidence of this earlier construction are found in the transom lights above the entrance door and irregular bond external end chimneys flanking either side elevation. The entire structure has been reclad in vinyl siding and windows. The home has a concrete block foundation, and an asphalt shingle roof. The side gable The interior was not available at the time of the survey.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-120

| Period | Areas of Significance | Check and justify below | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input 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 checked="" 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 | Circa 1875-1925 | Architect/Builder | Unknown |
| Construction dates | Circa 1875-1925 | | |

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.)

The Plains stands on property historically associated with the Gough family. Between 1871 and 1883, Lucinda Gough acquired the interests of the William Henry Gough's heirs in the property known as the Plains then containing 350 acres adjoining the Cooksey farm to the north. Her will of 1896, leaves the upper portion of the farm upon which I now reside, adjoining Trinity Church parish to her son Richard. Richard Gough made a home here for his family until 1923 when it was sold by his widow to Robert Bowling.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-120

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 16.78

Acreage of historical setting 350

Quadrangle name Charlotte Hall

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Plains is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 66, Parcel 117, Grid 2.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cathy C. Hardy/Historic Preservation Planner

organization Charles County Planning

dat 3/26/2002

street and number 200 Baltimore Street

telephone 3014-396-5815

city or town LaPlata

stat MD zip code 20646

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 do 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 INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-120

Section 8 Page 1

The Plains
name of property
Charles County, MD
county and state

Chain of Title:

- 1975 Louis P. Jenkins and Frank G. Perrin, trustees to Joseph A. Duley, Sr. Dietrich H. Steffens and James R. Latham. Parcel No. 3. containing 102.913 acres. Plat book 22/122.
394/90
- 1974 Robert P. Bowling, III and Lillian I. Bowling rep. For the estate of Robert P. Bowling, Jr. to heirs (See estate No. 4249.) Being all the remaining land Robert P. Bowling and Catherine S. Bowling acquired from Winifred E. Dyson July 7, 1942.
327/145
- 1942 Winifred E. Dyson to Robert P. Bowling, Jr. and Catherine S. Bowling
326.64 acres
76/422
- 1924 Robert P. Bowling, Sr. and wife to Robert P. Bowling, Jr.
42/494
- 1923 Annie S. Gough, widow of Richard Gough to Robert P. Bowling, "The Plains", "where Annie S. Gough now resides". 375 acres near Trinity Church. Acquired by Richard Gough, late husband
-by his mother Lucinda Gough, Feb 1896 18/56
-by Winifred Smoot in 1893 JST 5/661
-by Alexander Freeman and wife in 1902 BGS 12/473
- by Vestry of Trinity Parish in 1920 WMA 37/276
Save and excepting:
1st To Robert H. Turner 1896 JST 8/156
2nd Mary E. Long 1909 FDM 19/680
3rd By two deeds to the vestry of Trinity parish, 1920 WMA 36/225; 1920 WMA 37/129
WMA 42/563
- 1922 Will of Richard Gough. To wife Annie S. Gough
CND 20/271
- ? Last will and testament of Lucinda Gough:
- James H.- part of Parnham's Ammendment where he now resides
- Thomas B. Parnham Hall where he now resides
- Charlotte Hayden lower portion of Parnhams Ammendment
- **Richard - upper portion of farm upon which I now reside, the same adjoining Trinity Church Parish**
- Mary R. Hayden - northern portion of the farm on which I now reside
MT 18/569
- Equity 3573?
1871-1883 Lucinda Gough acquirred all remaining interests in the Plains, formerly belonging to the estate of William Henry Gough. 350 acres.
- 1854 Chapman and Lydia Billingsley to William H. Gough \$4400. All that tract composed of other tracts, *Meadow Ground, Ash Swamp, Sumbly, & Hitchin* lying in Trinity Parish containing 360 acres. Being same formerly belonging to Major James Latimer. Building and improvements. 360 acres

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-120

Section 9 Page 1

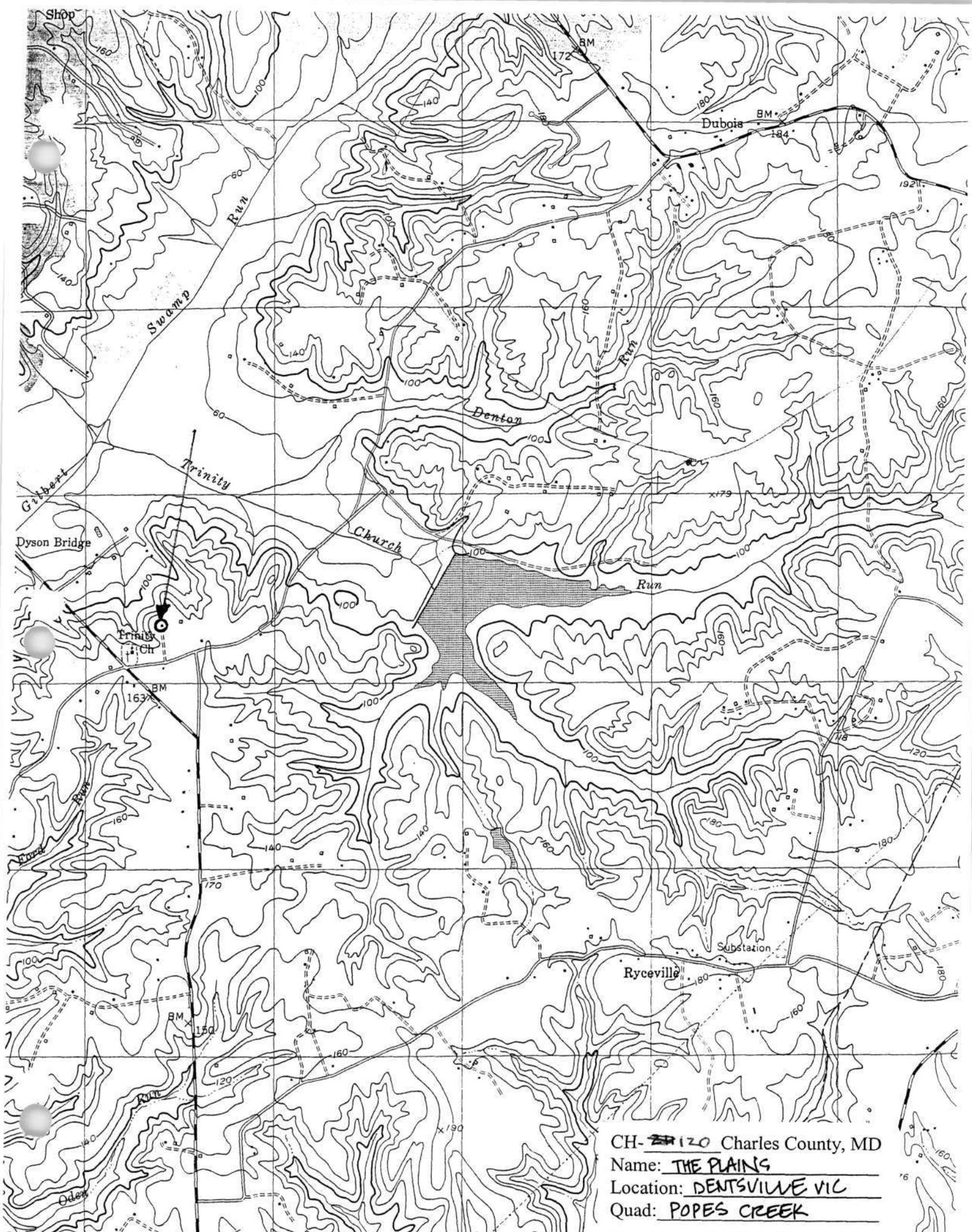
The Plains
name of property
Charles County, Maryland
county and state

Major Bibliographic References:

Brown, Jack D., et al. Charles County, Maryland, A History.
Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, LaPlata, Maryland.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown. The History of Charles County, Maryland.
LaPlata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.



CH-~~21~~ 120 Charles County, MD
Name: THE PLAINS
Location: DENTSVILLE VIC
Quad: POPES CREEK



CH-120

THE PLAINS

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/2002

C. HARDY

MD

SHPO

LOOKING NE

1 OF 3



CH-120
THE PLAINS
CHARLES COUNTY MD
112002

C. HARDY

MD
LOOKING S
20F3

SHPO



CH-120
THE PLAINS
CHARLES COUNTY MD
112002
C. HARDY
MD
LOOKING W
30F3

SHPO



CH120

The Plains

Dentsville, VIC.

2/2003

C. HARRY

MD

SHPO

LOOKING N. STAIR 1 OF 2



CH120

THE PLAINS

CHARLES CO, MD

2/2003

C. HARDY

MD SHPO

SN PARLOR

20F2

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|------------------|------|
| STATE: | |
| COUNTY: | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |

1. NAME

COMMON: Robert Bowling House " Plains"

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Trinity Church Road (MD 232)

CITY OR TOWN:
Newport (Dentsville vicinity)

STATE: Maryland CODE: COUNTY: Charles CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|--|---|--|--|
| District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Public <input type="checkbox"/> | Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Yes: Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> | Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> | Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Object <input type="checkbox"/> | Both <input type="checkbox"/> | Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> | No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> | Government <input type="checkbox"/> | Park <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> | Comments <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> | Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> | Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Educational <input type="checkbox"/> | Military <input type="checkbox"/> | Religious <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> | Museum <input type="checkbox"/> | Scientific <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: Robert Bowling John H. COOK + Gloria B. COOK

STREET AND NUMBER: Rte. 1, Box 60 20622

CITY OR TOWN: Newport Charlotte Hall STATE: Maryland CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Charles County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: La Plata STATE: Maryland CODE:

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
- 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Aboriginal | Education <input type="checkbox"/> | Political <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> | Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion/Phi- | Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic <input type="checkbox"/> | Industry <input type="checkbox"/> | losophy <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> | Invention <input type="checkbox"/> | Science <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Art <input type="checkbox"/> | Landscape | Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> | Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/Human- | _____ |
| Communications <input type="checkbox"/> | Literature <input type="checkbox"/> | itarian <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Conservation <input type="checkbox"/> | Military <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| | Music <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS