

Burdette's Rest
CH-131
Newburg vic.
Private

Mid 19th century

Burdette's Rest was first identified and well-documented in 1970 by James T. Wollon, Jr. for Orin M. Bullock, Jr. Believed to have been erected during the mid-19th century, Burdette's Rest is a 2 ½ story frame structure standing on the north side of Port Tobacco Road in the far southwestern section of Charles County. The home's most distinctive exterior feature is the pair of exterior end chimneys with stepped shoulders on the west elevation. A full-width porch extends across the front elevation and a large one-story shed-roof addition extends from the rear. Burdette's Rest is reflective of the side-passage double-parlor plan that dominated local building traditions until after the Civil War. It is also one of only a handful of surviving pre-Civil War structures in southwestern Charles County.

The property is believed to have been associated with George Robertson who owned extensive holdings in the vicinity. By the end of the third decade of the 19th century, George Robertson directed in his will that his executor sell his considerable acreage in Durham Parish including Burdette's Rest. In 1839 his executor carried out his wishes by selling 1347 acres known as "Burdette's Rest," "Burdette's Nest," ("now known as "Eagle's Nest") "Boughton's Disappointment," "Amsterdam," "Hanson's Part of Hudson's Disappointment," "the land of liberty," and "Harrison's Thorn" to Samuel S. and Henry A. Dent. These lands, although diminished in size, remained in the Dent family until 1943.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-131

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Burdette's Rest
 other Postman House

2. Location

street and number 10650 Ox Cart Road not for publication
 city, town Nanjemoy X vicinity
 county Charles

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

name Baker, Homer D. And Christopher A.
 street and number PO Box 1846 telephone unknown
 city, town Alexandria state VA zip code 22313-1846

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 70 p.176
 city, town La Plata liber 1359 folio 370

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	1	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic		structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education		objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	1	Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input checked="" 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:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
			1	

7. Description

Inventory No. CH-131

Condition

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

Believed to have been erected during the mid-19th century, Burdette's Rest is a 2 1/2 story frame structure standing on the north side of Port Tobacco Road in the far southwestern section of Charles County. The dwelling appears to be in relatively good condition although it has been unoccupied for over a decade. The homes most distinctive feature is the pair of exterior end chimneys with stepped shoulders on the west elevation. A full width porch extends across the front elevation and a large one story shed-roof addition extends from the rear. The front and rear elevation include three bays and although the interior was unavailable, it is reflective of the side-passage double-parlor plan that dominated local building traditions until after the Civil War. Burdette's Rest was first identified and well-documented in 1970 by James T. Wollon, Jr. for Orin M. Bullock, Jr. architect. Orlando Rideout accompanied Bullock on the site visit.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-131

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 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 1850 **Architect/Builder** unknown

Construction dates Circa 1850

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.)

Burdette's Rest is significant as one of only a handful pre-Civil War dwellings to survive in the southwestern section of Charles County. Historically isolated from the mainstream of Charles County life, this was the last area to be settled by Europeans and most likely to have been occupied by tenants, rather than land-owners. The dwelling is representative of the typical side-passage double-parlor plan that dominated local building traditions before the Civil War.

Although its history is not completely known the property is believed to have been associated with George Robertson who owned extensive holdings in the vicinity including Millbrook Mill (CH-193) in the village of Trappe, later renamed Nanjemoy. By the end of the third decade of the 19th century, George Robertson directed in his will that his executor sell his considerable acreage in Durham Parish including Burdette's Rest. In 1839 his executor carried out his wishes by selling 1347 acres known as "Burdette's Rest," "Burdette's Nest," ("now known as "Eagle's Nest") "Boughton's Disappointment," "Amsterdam," "Hanson's Part of Hudson's Disappointment," "the land of liberty," and "Harrison's Thorn" to Samuel S. and Henry A. Dent. These lands, although diminished in size, remained in the Dent family until 1943. Ann Matilda Gray inherited the property from Samuel and Harry Dent. In 1932, her surviving husband and children devised 408 acres of "Bird's Nest," "Burdette's Rest," "Boughton's Disappointment," and "Amsterdam" to one son, Samuel Dent Gray.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-131

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 3

Acreage of historical setting unknown

Quadrangle name Nanjemoy

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

the property is associated with Charles county Property Tax Map 70, parcel 176.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cathy Hardy/Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Charles County Planning

date 6/18/2003

street and number 200 Baltimore Street

telephone 301-396-5815

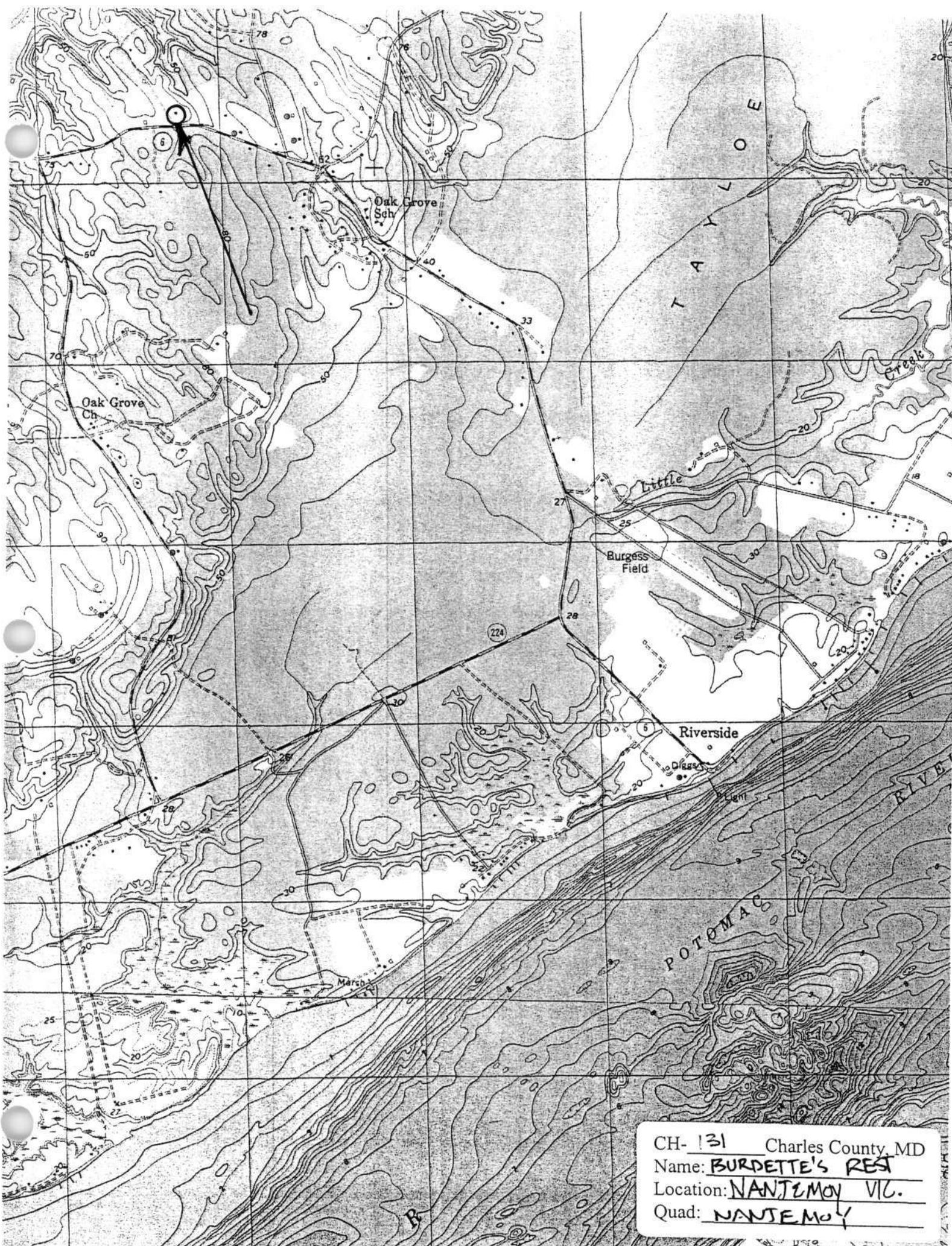
city or town La Plata

state 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



CH- 131 Charles County, MD
Name: BURDETTE'S REST
Location: NANTEMOY VIC.
Quad: NANTEMOY



CA 131

BURDETTE'S REST

NANJEMOY VIC.

C. HAPPY

S/2003

MD → HPD

LOOKING E

10F2



CA-131
BURDETTE'S REST
NANTJEMAY VIC.

C. HARRY

5/2003

NO SLIP

LOOKING SE
2 OF 2

POSTMAN HOUSE
CH-131

090 13153 04

The "Postman House" is a Federal-style, two and one-half story frame dwelling, three bays wide on its principal, south, facade. The ground and second floor room configuration consist of an end stair hall with adjacent double parlors on the west side. On the west end of the house stand two brick chimneys. A door at this end once led to a one-story, frame, kitchen wing that was removed several decades ago.

The eave cornices are plain and boxed. Most exterior moldings are gone or have been replaced. On the rear and east end the original (?) random width beaded clapboard remain. There is a circa 1900 one-story farm porch across the front. The roof is covered with wood shingles.

The Postman House is in rather poor physical condition although it is presently being renovated by its owners.

JRR:sh

11 April 1975

"BURDETTE'S REST"

On June 24, 1970, we visited "Burdette's Rest," or "Burdette's Nest," as it is variously known, with Mr. Orlando Ridout IV, near Nanjemoy, Charles County, Maryland. We understand it is offered for sale, with two acres, for \$7,000.

The house is about 200 feet back from the road on a pleasant, shaded lawn, just beginning to be overgrown. Young trees of desirable species are apparent - Poplars, Walnut, Kentucky Coffee, to name a few - as well as mature trees - a great Ash is especially attractive. A number of fruit trees are on the lawn to the southeast. The terrain is level.

We believe the road-front of the house faces south. An old brick walk leads from the drive up to a one storey, south front porch. It is screened, but the columns, of some modified Tuscan order, are just different enough to suggest more age than might at first be guessed.

The house is frame, two and one-half storeys high without a cellar, three bays long, with a pair of exterior brick chimneys on the west end. Siding is beaded, and secured with cut nails. Low brick piers support the structure a foot or less above the grade. Both sills intersecting at the southeast

corner, and the bottom of the southeast corner post, have rotted away. (This is the only serious visible structural problem, although interior floors are not level.) Wide plain trim around windows does not appear original nor does a large overhang on the gable ends.

The brick chimneys are laid in common bond. Patches and broken bricks protruding out, or west, at the two inside corners, the ghost of a roofline, and evidence of a closed door converted to a window all indicate the former existence of a pent chamber between, and of a depth greater than, the chimneys. Chimneys were apparently built after the weatherboarding was applied, as the latter appears to extend behind the former.

A one storey lean-to was across the north side, and, we were told, was recently torn down. It may once have been a porch, later enclosed for a kitchen.

No evidence is apparent of a kitchen house, although the west window in the north room was also once a door; possibly the existing exterior north door opening in this room was a window, with the door in the west wall giving access toward a detached kitchen house.

Exterior doors are six paneled with flush beaded panels outside and flat unmolded panels inside. The south door is

a four paneled late replacement. First storey interior doors are six paneled, raised on one side, flat on the reverse. Door locks are various types of small rim locks, typical of the late 19th century, with brown glazed clay knobs. Second storey doors are of beaded vertical boards. All door and window trim appears original, applied in a very traditional manner, without corner blocks.

A very simple chairrail surrounds all rooms at the window sill line, except in the south bedroom; there, the chairrail appears under each window, but ends at the outside edges of the architrave. It appears as though it once existed but was removed; no evidence is apparent in the plaster, so one may conjecture that this room was replastered.

Mantles are simply designed, using the typical architrave with a simple frieze and shelf. Hearths are, for the most part, missing.

Newell posts are square and perfectly plain. The rail joins them with a pegged mortise and tenon joint. Ballusters are likewise square and perfectly plain. The third storey newells, unlike the lower ones, have arched tops - a very effective simple design.

The interior is all plastered, save one bit noted on the second storey plan, on handsplit lath fastened to structural

members with cut nails.

Sawn, unbeaded, and unpainted joists are about 2' - 0" o.c. and a flat 1" x is between and parallel to each to carry lathing. Corner posts, the top plates, and diagonal bracing, all visible along the stair to the third storey, are hewn and joined with mortise and tenon with wood pins.

Some 6/6 sash appear original, with 8" x 10" lights and full 3/4" wide muntins.

Third storey partitions are vertical shiplapped beaded boards, extending clear to the roof ridge, unpainted, and covered with sawn lath and plaster. Hinges of the one existing door are HL, fastened to plain beaded trim with nails and leather washers. Ghosts of similar hinges are apparent at other openings.

There is neither plumbing nor central heat and the minimal electrical system consists of exposed BX cable to a few outlets and ceiling lights in the first storey only.

All superficial evidence on the building points to a construction date of c. 1825, give or take fifteen years or so. Details are all very simple and basically very traditional, characteristic of a house in this very rural location far from the cultural centers of Annapolis, Baltimore, and Alexandria.

Although basically structurally sound, in spite of a few

obvious problems mentioned above, it has not been well maintained in recent years, and does not present a "tight" appearance. Many weatherboards are loose; many have tin patches. The wood roof shingles are deteriorating and leaking; plaster is falling. Some first floor boards are deteriorating due to their closeness to grade, and, we think, bugs. There is no continuous foundation, which allows entry under the house to both weather and beasts.

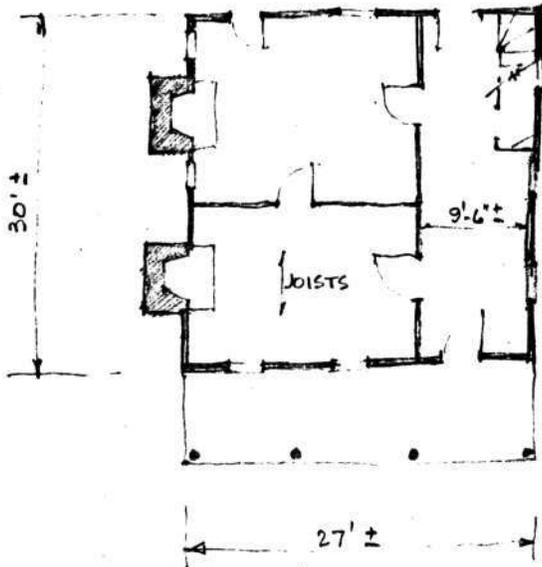
The great simplicity of this house is its most important characteristic. It has seen a minimum of alteration and is nearly complete. This simplicity and long continuance of a style in a very traditional form and detailing is often forgotten in our interest in our architectural heritage and our hasty quest for lost ages of grandure.

Orin M. Bullock, Jr., architect

by James T. Wollon, Jr.

June 29, 1970

CH-131
 FIELD SKETCHES 24 JUNE 1970
 BURDETTE'S REST
 CHARLES COUNTY, MD.



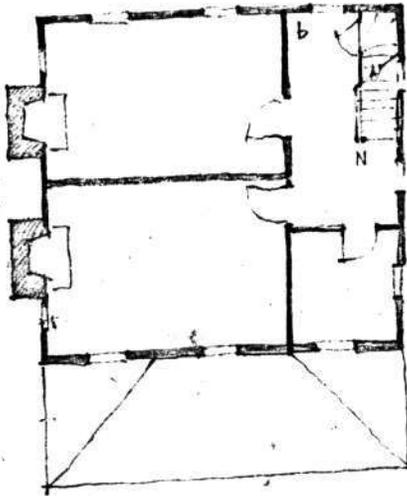
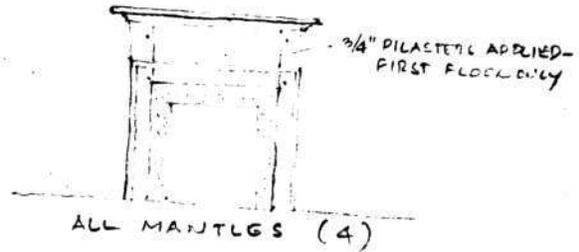
FIRST FLOOR

UP 15 R

--VERT. BOARD PARTITION REMOVED. 6P DOOR IN HALL, STILL.

JOISTS NOT CONTINUOUS N TO S. LAPPED 2' ± OVER PARTITION. NO EVIDENCE OF DIFFERENT AGE.

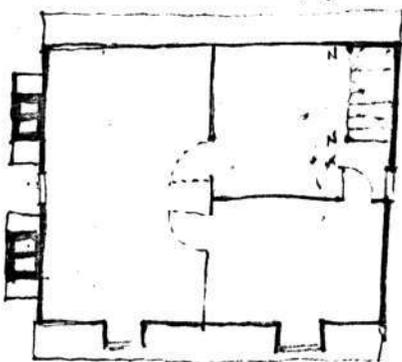
↑
 CALLED NORTH



SECOND FLOOR

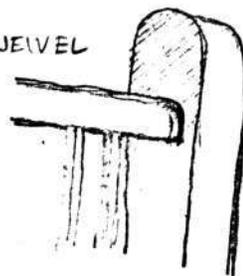
b BEADED HORIZONTAL WAJNSCOT

N PAIR SQUARE NEWELS



THIRD FLOOR

N ARCHED NEWEL



Drawn by: JAMES T. WOOD

Cap bud Jen

CH-131

Mrs Watson Perrygo,
"elderly," said that "Burdette's
Rest" (CH 131 - Postman House) in
Horse Springs (Grayton) in
Chas Co. which was for sale
with 2 acres for \$7,000 was
sold Sat, July 25, to a
Real Estate Man (speculator?).

JRP.

7/27, 70



from South

CH-131
Burdette's Rest
Charles County, Maryland
24 June, 1970

photos by James T. Wollon, Jr.



from Southwest



from Southwest



from Northwest



Base of Chimneys - West End

CH-131
Burdette's Rest
Charles County, Maryland
24 June, 1970

photos by James T. Wollon, Jr.



from East