

**Greenland**  
**CH-603**  
**LaPlata vic.**  
**Private**

**C. 1775; c. 1850**

Greenland consists of an altered late-18th century dwelling surrounded by several significant outbuilding including two mid-19th century log structures; a kitchen and meathouse. A family burial site is also located on the property. Non-contributing resources include an early twentieth century tobacco barn, stable, garage, wellhouse, chickenhouse and two corncribs. The farm is surrounded by flat cultivated fields and is located on Spring Hill-Newtown Road just south of LaPlata. The main block of the dwelling consists of a 1 1/2 story, three bay, side gable frame house with a steeply pitched roof and a symmetrical façade. Perhaps the most outstanding surviving original feature is the exterior end brick chimney with a stepped shoulder. The house was extensively remodeled during the 1930s and now features both Colonial Revival and Craftsmen details.

Although the dwelling has been extensively altered, Greenland is architecturally significant for its exceptional outbuildings and historically significant for its association with "The Exchange" (CH-299). The sites long association with the prominent Hanson family of southern Maryland adds significance to the property as well.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. Ch-603

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

historic Greenland (preferred)  
 other Hanson's Conclusion

### 2. Location

street and number 9905 Spring Hill-Newtown Road  not for publication  
 city, town LaPlata  vicinity  
 county

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

name Katherine Turner, et al  
 street and number 9905 Spring Hill-Newtown Road telephone 301-932-2480  
 city, town LaPlata state MD zip code 20646

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse tax map and parcel: Map 44P.118  
 city, town LaPlata liber 838 folio 6

### 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 at MHT
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	1	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	1	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	2	7
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education		
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	4	7
		<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 type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>	
			0	

## 7. Description

Inventory No. Ch-603

### Condition

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

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

Greenland consists of an altered late-18th century dwelling surrounded by several significant outbuilding including two mid-19th century log structures; a kitchen and meathouse. A family burial site is also located on the property. Non-contributing resources include an early twentieth century tobacco barn, stable, garage, wellhouse, chickenhouse and two corncribs.

The farm is surrounded by flat cultivated fields and is located on Spring Hill-Newton Road just south of LaPlata. Although much architectural evidence has been lost, the overall form of the dwelling, evidence found on the outbuildings, and archival research points to a construction period of 1775-1800. The main block of the dwelling consists of a 1 1/2 story, three bay, side gable frame house with a steeply pitched roof and a symmetrical façade. A one story frame kitchen wing was added to the west elevation in the 1930's which, based on historic photos, was near the site of the log kitchen(since moved). The house was extensively remodeled at this time and now features both Colonial Revival and Craftsmen details. The most outstanding surviving original feature is the exterior end brick chimney with a stepped shoulder. A later interior brick chimney stack is found on the interior west wall of the main block and a twentieth century exterior brick chimney flue is found on the gable wall of the one story wing.

The main block rests on a solid parged concrete or concrete block foundation that was likely rebuilt from an original brick foundation. The wing stands on a concrete block foundation. The entire dwelling is currently sheathed in vinyl siding. The roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles and the cornice is boxed. All existing windows and doors are modern replacements and in some instances fenestration appears to have been modified as well. Three gabled dormers have been added to the roof on the façade and a large shed dormer has been added to the rear.

The façade of the main block faces north and consists of a center passage flanked by two replacement 8/8 light metal sash double-hung windows with metal surrounds. The single wood panel and light door is accented with a Colonial Revival architrave and pilasters. The three large dormers probably date to the 1930 renovation, and now hold 6/6 light metal windows. The façade of the kitchen wing includes three metal double hung 6/6 light windows.

Moving clockwise, the eastern elevation is distinguished by a prominent exterior brick chimney laid in an irregular American bond with a stepped shoulder. The first floor fenestration includes two sash double-hung metal 4/4 light windows with metal trim on either side of the chimney. Closer to the façade is a modern single panel metal door with a lunette window. The second story includes a 4/4 light metal window hugging the chimney stack to the south. Opposite this, near the façade is a 6/6 light metal window. The attic story has a single wood casement 6-light window with metal trim.

The southern elevation includes altered fenestration now consisting of four paired sash double-hung 6/6 light metal windows on the first floor. The original roof at this elevation has been altered to include a circa 1930 shed dormer containing five sash double-hung 6/6 light metal windows. A single wood panel and light door with a square-edged wood surround is positioned in the kitchen wing along with a single paneled metal door that provides access to a basement.

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## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Greenland (preferred)

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The western elevation of the main block includes one metal 8/8 light double-hung window on the first floor, two 6/6 light double-hung metal windows on the second floor and a single 6-light wood casement window in the attic story. The kitchen wing has two 6/6 light metal windows below a single 4-light wood casement window on the north side of the chimney in the attic story. Additionally, a pair of fixed 2-light windows are situated at the southwest corner.

### INTERIOR

The interior of the dwelling was also significantly altered and remodeled in the 1930's incorporating elements of the Colonial Revival and Craftsmen styles. Further investigation is needed to determine whether or not the floorplan is original but it is evident that the floors, stairs and trim all date from the 1930's. Today, when entering from the façade the corner stair is to the left in the northeast corner. Behind this is a living room heated by the original exterior chimney.

Two other examples of similar structures in Charles County with similar proportions include Mt. Eagle c. 1796 (CH-82) and Oak Grove c. 1810 (CH-59 NR). While both of these examples are in brick, they each include three bay, 1 1/2 story, double pile plans.

### CEMETERY

Although the cemetery was not surveyed, according to the owner, a family burial plot and a "slave cemetery" are located in the wooded area south of the dwelling.

### MEATHOUSE

Contributing outbuildings include the log meathouse and kitchen which may be contemporary with the dwelling. Both exhibit excellent features including half-dovetail notching, and a boxed and beaded cornice. Although the kitchen has been relocated from its original site nearby, notwithstanding, neither building appears to have been substantially altered from its earlier form.

The meathouse is a hewn log structure with half-dovetail notching. Nogging material is a combination of concrete and wood. The wooden post foundation has been reinforced to include concrete piers with pebble infill. Wood shingles are visible under the corrugated metal roof. The cornice is boxed and beaded and the gable ends are covered with wide, 12-14 inch weatherboards. The door is located on the east gable wall and consists of three vertical boards with beaded edges. Exterior dimensions are 16' by 8'7" inches. Examination of the interior reveals vertical supports pegged to the interior walls on the east and west sides. Pegs are 2" square and are found at nearly every log.

### KITCHEN

This is also a hewn log structure with half-dovetail notching and a combination of wood and concrete nogging. Wood shingles are visible under the current corrugated metal roof. The presence of a beaded raking cornice is one indication of this buildings earlier prominence. According to the owner and verified by historic photos, the kitchen has been moved from its original site which approximates the site of the current kitchen wing.

The door is located on the north gable end near the west wall. Trim has been

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replaced. Wide 12 inch weatherboards cover the gable ends. The west wall includes a centered window. The south wall includes a small attic story window with a missing sash which would have provided light to an unheated second level. A patch in the logs on the east wall may be evidence of the original chimney placement. Exterior dimensions are 14 feet four inches by 12 feet 8 inches.

Interior inspection reveals cut nails, hewn rafters and joists, and wind braces. An enclosed stair is located on the north wall and is directly to the left when entering the structure. Interior trim has been replaced throughout and the floor is earthen. Severe deterioration has occurred at the northeast corner which is now in the process of collapsing.

### NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

#### WELLHOUSE

The frame wellhouse is a front gable frame structure with a brick pier foundation. It is covered with weatherboards. It has a metal roof and includes a ridgepole.

#### GARAGE

The front gable two bay garage dates from the 1940s. It rests on concrete block piers and is covered with weatherboards. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

#### CORNCRIB

This is a frame structure resting on a concrete block foundation. It has vertical board siding and a metal roof.

#### TOBACCO BARN

This gambrel roof tobacco barn has double bays on the gable end. It is clad in vertical board siding and a metal roof.

#### CHICKEN HOUSE

The chicken house has a sloping metal roof and vertical board siding.

#### STABLE

The stable dates from the 1930's and is covered with vertical board siding and a metal roof.

#### CORNCRIB

A second corncrib is located in an open field to the east. It also dates from the 1930's and is covered in vertical board siding and a metal roof.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. Ch-603

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

<b>Specific dates</b>	circa 1775-1800	<b>Architect</b>	unknown
<b>Construction dates</b>	circa 1775-1800	<b>Builder</b>	unknown

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.)

Although the dwelling has been extensively altered, Greenland is architecturally significant for its exceptional outbuildings and historically significant for its association with "The Exchange" (CH-299). The sites long association with the prominent Hanson family of southern Maryland adds significance to the property as well.

Greenland, a Hanson family home for over 100 years, originally consisted of 755 acres patented in 1737 by John Hanson, Jr. (1681-1754). On the death of John Hanson, Jr. the property was inherited by his eldest child and only son, John Hanson III. During the American Revolution, John Hanson III and his sons built and operated a gunpowder mill nearby on part of the Greenland patent which was in part financed by the State of Maryland and intended to support the Maryland militia. This venture was largely unsuccessful and by the early 1800's the site was abandoned and the parcel sold.

In 1787 John Hanson III formally wrote out his will in which he divided his property among his heirs. After his wife's death Greenland was to be divided between his two sons Walter and Samuel. Walter received the portion of Greenland which had been promised to him earlier, and upon which he had built "The Exchange" (CH-299) in 1778.

The property on the south side of the road was reserved for Samuel Hanson after the death of his mother. In 1819, "Part of the tract or parcel of land called Greenland" was resurveyed and found to contain 207 acres. The parcel was then renamed "Hanson's Conclusion" probably to distinguish it from adjacent properties. However, this name lasted only briefly. At about the same time the name "The Exchange" began to be used for the adjacent property which may explain why "Greenland" continued to be the preferred reference rather than "Hanson's Conclusion".

By the time of the Civil War, John D. Hanson had his home plantation at Greenland as evidenced by his will of 1862. He left the farm to his sister Elizabeth Ann Hanson, who passed it on to her nephew John D. Hanson.

The Hanson Family were slaveowners with fifteen to twenty servants documented in the 1860's. Interestingly, John D. Hanson Sr.'s will of 1862 allowed for ten acres on the west side of the property to be devised to his former servants, who were to be freed at the time of his sisters death. This transaction appears to have never been honored. By 1872, the Hanson family sold the entire parcel, including the ten acres to Patrick

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A. Murphy.

What is now known as Greenland consists of approximately 98 acres and includes the dwelling, several significant outbuildings and a family burial ground. Accurately dating the site is difficult because the dwelling has been significantly altered and retains little original materials. Architecturally, the house seems to resemble late Georgian, rather than Federal architecture. Therefore it seems probable that this dwelling and perhaps the log structures were constructed between 1775-1800.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 98.13  
Acreage of historical setting 10  
Quadrangle name Popes Creek Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The property at 9905 Spring Hill-Newtown Road is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 44, Grid 21, Parcel 118.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title	Cathy Currey/Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	Charles County Planning Dept.	date	12/05/2000
street and number	200 Baltimore Street	telephone	301-396-581
city or town	LaPlata	state	MD
		zipcode	20646

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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-603

Section 8 Page 1

Greenland  
name of property  
Charles County, MD  
county and state

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Chain of title:

See Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties CH-299NR *The Exchange*.

- 1793 Will of John Hanson, III To son Samuel, all land on southside of main road from port Tobacco to the old Bridges. Part of Greenland. 239 a.  
**WB AK 11 Folio 188**
- 1798 Charles County Tax Assessment lists 1 dwelling and three outhouses valued at \$150.  
**Microfilm Southern Maryland Studies Center**
- September 8, 1819 Warrent of Resurvey to Elizabeth Ann Hanson, John David Hanson, Mary Ann Catherine Hanson and Margaret Sophia Hanson Part of the tract or parcel of land called Greenland. ...to contain 204 a. 3 rods and 29 perches to which I have added three acres of vacant land and reduced the whole into one entire tract now called Hanson's Conclusion.
- October 1862 Will of John D. Hanson. To my sister Elizabeth Ann Hanson. All of my servants to be freed after her death. All of my farm, the plantation where I live.  
**WB Folio 295**
- June 20, 1867 Elizabeth A. Hanson to John D. Hanson (nephew). Land on which I now dwell known as Greenland. Including ten acres on the other side of the road being all the same land John D. Hanson, Sr. resided except 6 a. on the west side devised by him to others to hold after my death in fee simple.  
**GAH 1 Folio 271**
- August 3, 1872 John D. Hanson and Mary P. Hanson his wife to Patrick A. Murphy \$2500.00 Greenland. Now occupied by John D. Hanson and Mary P. his wife "including the 10 a. devised by John D. Hanson to certain of his negro servants to be laid off in the western part thereof.." Saving and excepting

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-603

Section 8 Page 2

Greenland  
name of property  
Charles County, MD  
county and state

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the [Hanson] family graveyard. 200 a.

**GAS 3 Folio 476**

February 6, 1902

Charles A. Murphy, et al. to James B. Murphy. Part of  
"Greenland". 75 a. [farm divided between brothers Charles  
and James. By deed preceding this Charles recieved 125a..  
*where he now resides.*]

**BGS 12 Folio 504**

August 18, 1914

J. Lawrence Murphy to Xavier W. Garner and Mary R. his  
wife. "Greenland". Property acquirred from Charles A.  
Murphy et al to James B. Murphy.

-75 a.

-5 a. "Powder Mill Field" referenced in BGS 5 Folio 164

**HCC 27 Folio 425**

June 14, 1982

Gordon R. Moreland to Mary Lenore Jones, Katherine  
Guinnette Turner, Barbara Ann Howell and Adelaide G.  
Garner. 98.13 a.

**Liber 838 Folio 6**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-603

Section 9 Page 1

Greenland  
name of property  
Charles County, MD  
county and state

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**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.

Klaphor, Margaret Brown. *The History of Charles County, Maryland*.  
LaPlata, MD. Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.

Rivoire, J. Richard. *Homeplaces: Traditional Domestic Architecture of Charles County, Maryland*, LaPlata MD. Southern Maryland Studies Center, 1990.

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

Name: GREENLAND

Date: 11/19/99

Address: 9905

North arrow:

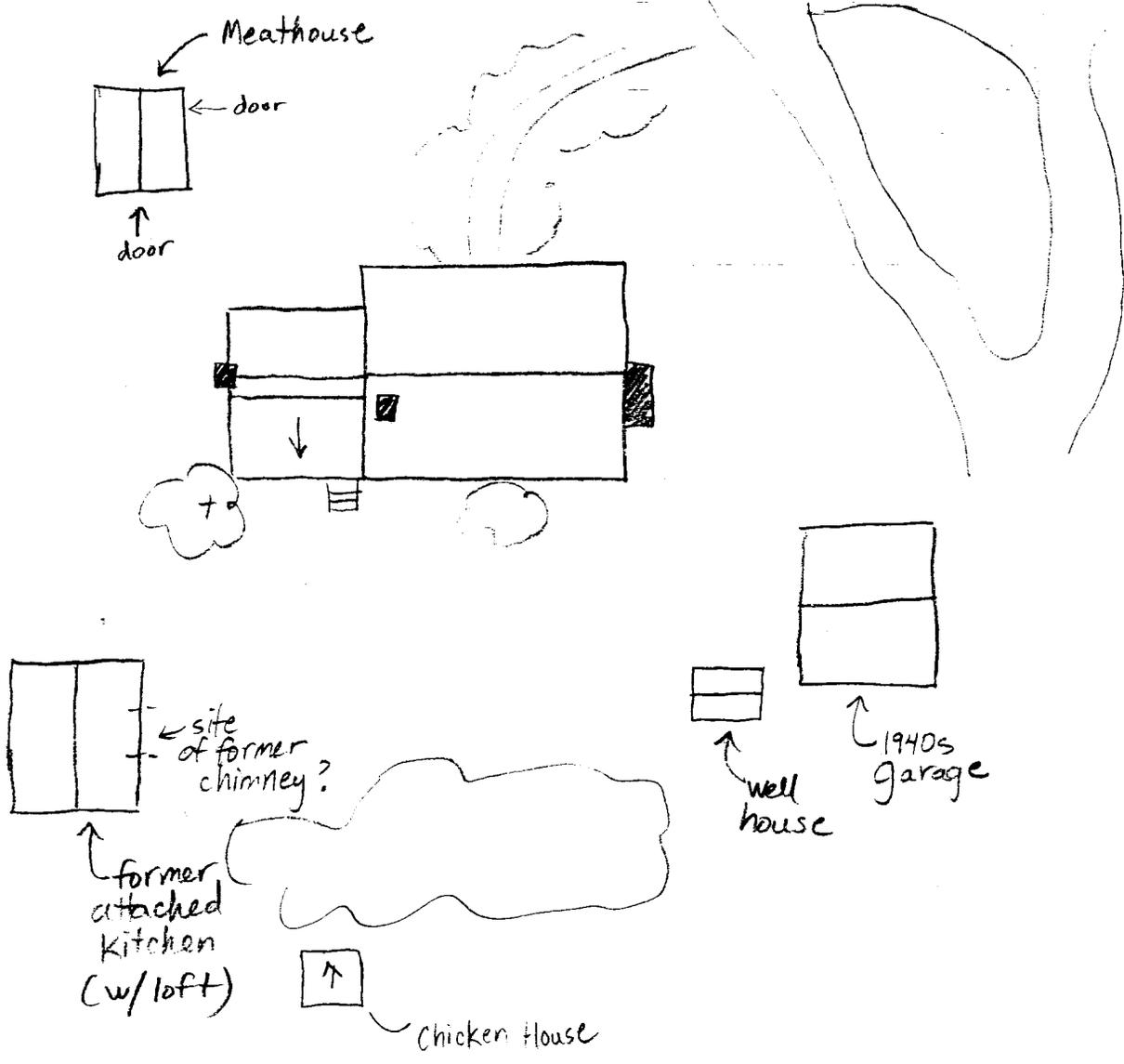


CH - 603

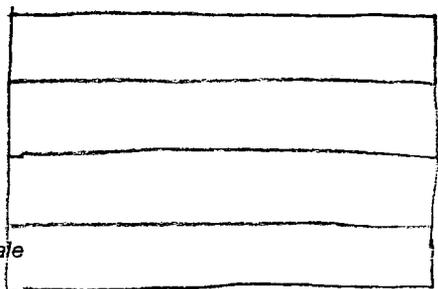
Charles County, Maryland

LAPLATA

Vicinity



1950s  
corn →



Not drawn to scale

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

Name: GREENLAND

Date: 11/19/99

Address: 9905 Springhill - Newtown

North arrow:

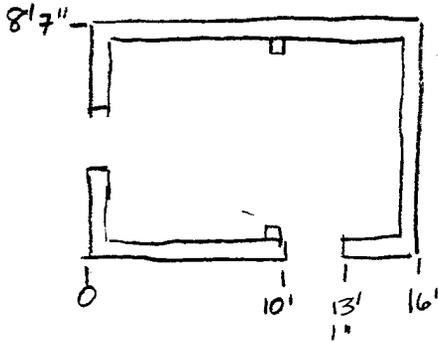
CH - 603

Charles County, Maryland

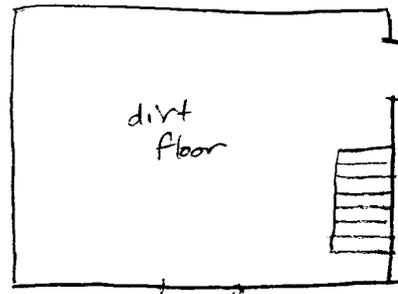
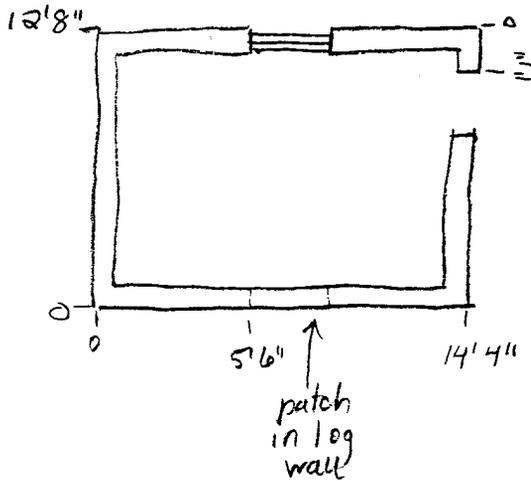
LAPLATA  Vicinity



Meat house

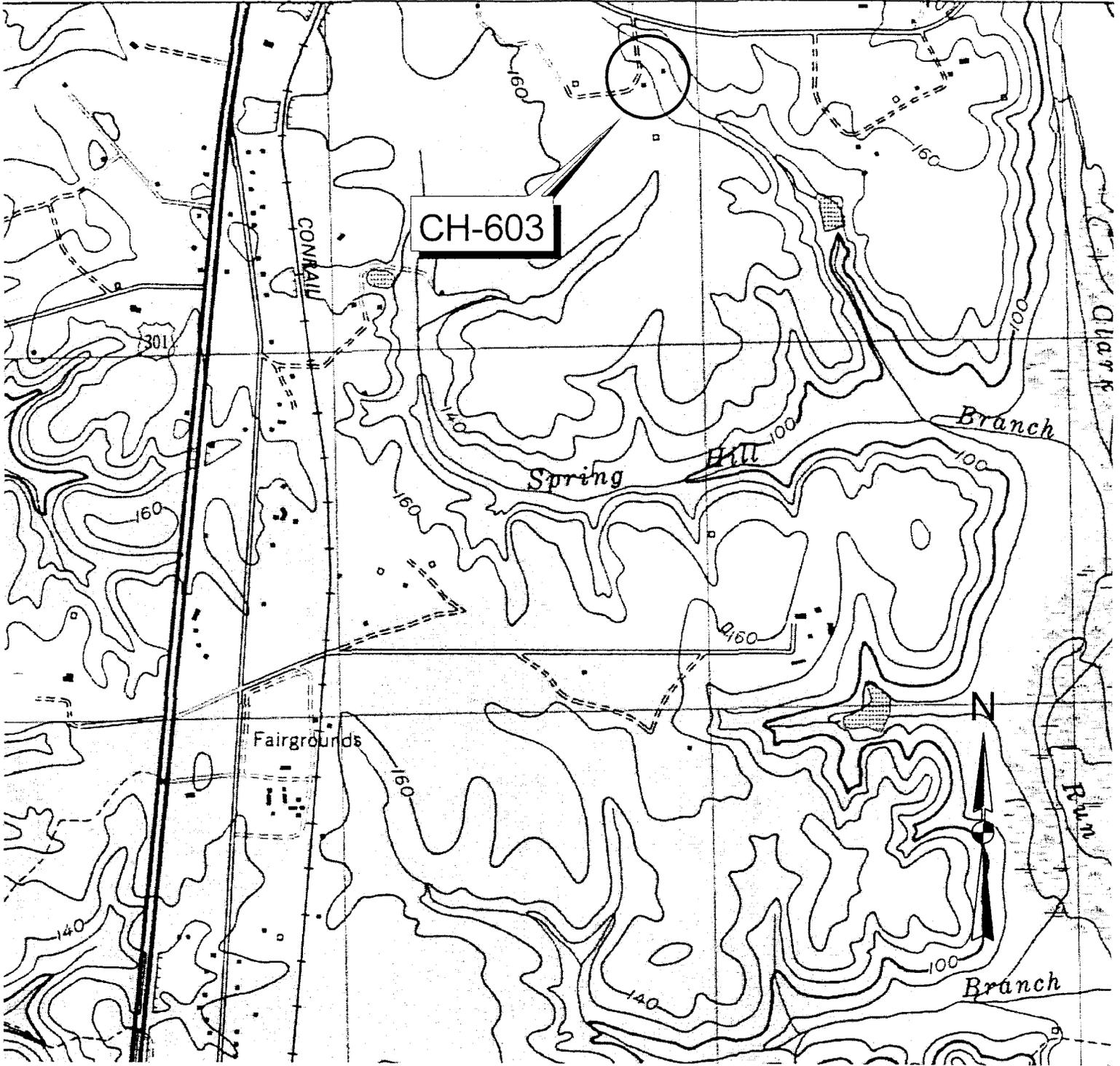


Kitchen



Interior

- hewn joists
- shored up when moved
- interior trim replaced
- = enclosed stair



Greenland  
CH-603  
Charles County, MD  
Popes Creek, MD Quad



CH-603

GREENLAND

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K.G. SMITH

MARYLAND SHDS

MAIN HOUSE, NORTH ELEVATION

1 OF 15



CH-603

GREENLAND

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K.G. SMITH

MARYLAND SHPO

MAIN HOUSE, LOOKING NW

2 OF 15



CH-603

GREENLAND

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K. G. SMITH

MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE, LOOKING SE

3 OF 15



CH-603

GREENLAND

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K. G. SMITH

MARYLAND SHPO

HISTORIC PHOTOS, EARLY 20th C.

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CH-603

GREENLAND

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

# K.G. SMITH

MARYLAND STATE HPO

MEATHOUSE, LOOKING SW

5 OF 15



CH-603

GREENLAND

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K.G. SMITH

MARYLAND SHPO

MEATHOUSE, LOOKING NE

6 OF 15



CH-603

GREENLAND

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K.G. SMITH

MARYLAND SITPO  
MEATHOUSE, LOOKING SE

7 OF 15



CIT-603 GREENLAND  
CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K.G. SMITH

MARYLAND SHPO

MEATHOUSE, INTERIOR VERTICAL BRACE

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CH-603  
GREENLAND  
CHARLES COUNTY, MD  
11/99  
K.G. SMITH  
MARYLAND SHPO  
KITCHEN, LOOKING NE

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CH - 603  
GREENLAND  
CHARLES COUNTY, MD  
11/99  
K. G. SMITH  
MARYLAND SITPO  
KITCHEN, LOOKING WEST  
10 of 15



CH-603  
GREENLAND  
CHARLES COUNTY, MD  
11/99  
K.G. SMITH  
MARYLAND SHPO  
KITCHEN, LOOKING SE  
11 OF 15



CH-603 GREENLAND  
CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K.G. SMITH

MARYLAND SHPO

12 OF 15

GARAGE, WELLHOUSE LOOKING SE



CH-603

GREENLAND

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K.G. SMITH

MARYLAND SHPO

STABLE, CORNCRIB, 1430'S HOUSE

LOOKING EAST FROM MAIN HOUSE

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CH-603  
GREENLAND  
CHARLES COUNTY, MD  
11/99  
K. G. SMITH  
MARYLAND SHPO  
BARN, LOOKING SW  
14 OF 15



CH-603  
GREENLAND  
CHARLES COUNTY, MD

K. G. SMITH

11/99

MARYLAND SHPO

CHICKEN HOUSE, LOOKING EAST

15 OF 15