APPLEBY

Appleby is historically significant as the home of Governor Thomas Holliday Hicks, governor of Maryland during the Civil War. The tract of land originally consisted of 300 acres, which Henry Ennalls purchased from the Abaco Indians. The oldest portion of the house is believed to have been built by Ennalls around 1730-35, although it appears to have been extensively altered and added on to in the late 19th century. The house today is a large rambling, assymetrical frame structure of two and one-half stories with a three story tower on the southeast corner and another tower on the southwest corner. Across the west and south facades of the house is a two story porch, supported by fluted Doric columns.
Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet

Nomination Form for the National Register of Historic Places, National Parks Service

1. Name
   Common:
   And/or Historic:
   Appleby

2. Location
   Street and Number:
   315-317 East Appleby Ave.
   City or Town:
   Cambridge, Md.
   State:
   County:
   Dorchester

3. Classification
   Category (Check One):
   - District
   - Site
   - Structure
   - Object
   Ownership:
   - Public
   - Private
   - Both
   Public Acquisition:
   - In Process
   - Being Considered
   Status:
   - Occupied
   - Unoccupied
   - Preservation work in progress
   Accessible to the Public:
   - Yes:
   - Restricted
   - Unrestricted
   - No

   Present Use (Check One or More as Appropriate):
   - Agricultural
   - Commercial
   - Educational
   - Entertainment
   - Government
   - Industrial
   - Military
   - Museum
   - Religious
   - Scientific
   - Park
   - Other (Specify)
   - Transportation
   - Comments

4. Owner of Property
   Owner's Name:
   Grady Wilson
   Street and Number:
   317 East Appleby Ave.
   City or Town:
   Cambridge
   State:
   Maryland
   Zip Code:
   21613

5. Location of Legal Description
   Courthouse, Registry of Deeds, etc:
   Dorchester County Courthouse
   Street and Number:
   206 High Street
   City or Town:
   Cambridge
   State:
   Maryland
   Zip Code:
   21613

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:
This is a very large, rambling, assymetrical frame house of two and one half stories. The oldest portion, to the west, is said to have been built around 1730-35, although the house appears to have been extensively renovated and added on to in the late nineteenth century. The front of the house consists of four bays plus a three story polygonal tower on the southeast corner. This tower is ornamented by a cornice with dentils and scallops between each story. Below the first story windows of this tower is a paneled section and covering part of the second and third story are imbricated shingles. On the southwest corner, above the hip roof, is a rectangular third story tower. This tower has rectangular windows on each side and paneling above. Across the west side of the house and part of the front is a two story porch supported by fluted Doric columns. The porch has a ballustrade with rectangular ballusters and the cornices of the porch are ornamented by large dentils. In front of the double door which is flanked by sidelights and has a transom light above, is a triangular pediment. There is a hip roofed dormer on the front with three small square windows. These windows have a single light in the center surrounded by a border of small panes, like the windows in the third story of the southeast tower.
This tract of land originally consisted of 300 acres which Henry Ennalls purchased from Betty Caco, Ruler and Queen of the Abaco Indians and Pemetask, Ruler and Queen of the Hatswamp Indians for 22 pounds of tobacco on January 18, 1726. The Ennalls were a prominent Dorchester family who were active in local government and were large landowners. In 1799, this tract of land was purchased from Ennalls by Robert Harrison, who was sheriff of Dorchester County from 1767 to 1769. John Lockerman was the next owner, and in 1811, Joseph Ennalls Muse purchased the property from Lockerman. On August 3, 1858, Appleby was purchased by Thomas Holliday Hicks, the Civil War governor of Maryland. Governor Hicks was born near East New Market, in 1798, where his father was a large planter and slave owner. The older part of the dwelling is to the west. There is no data as to the age and builder of the mansion, but it is thought that the older portion was erected by Henry Ennalls, 1730-35.
### MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

F. Arthur Lascowski, Papers, 1958

### GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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**APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:**

Acreage Justification:

### FORM PREPARED BY

**NAME AND TITLE:**

Catherine L. Moore

**ORGANIZATION:**

**DATE:** 11/30/75

**STREET AND NUMBER:**

Route 3, Box 32

**CITY OR TOWN:**

Cambridge

**STATE:** Maryland

### SIGNIFICANCE

**Significance of this property is:**

- National [ ]
- State [ ]
- Local [ ]

Signature
This large house is one of the most significant structures in Cambridge because of its historic connection with prominent figures in Dorchester County and the State of Maryland. Appleby was the home of Maryland's Civil War governor, Thomas Holliday Hicks. In the early nineteenth century Appleby also belonged to Dr. Joseph E. Muse, a prominent agricultural reformer. The house itself has been remodeled in the Queen Anne style of the late nineteenth century, but the west portion is much older, dating from the late eighteenth century or early nineteenth century.

In 1726, Joseph Ennalls purchased three hundred acres of land from Betty Caco, ruler of the Abaco Indians. The land, known as Ennall's Outrange, remained in the family for several generations until Colonel Robert Harrison purchased 142 acres between 1786 and 1793. Harrison built a house on what had been farm land. This structure, possibly part of the present house, was mentioned in the 1793 deed. Following his death Harrison's land was sold in 1803 to Jacob Lockerman of Talbot County.

In 1808, Dr. Joseph E. Muse bought seventy acres of land, including a house, from Lockerman for $5,000.00. Muse added to the property between 1811 and 1817 with seventy-seven additional acres from Lockerman. Muse may have built the original part of this house or added to the one that Harrison had constructed.

Dr. Joseph Ennalls Muse (1776-1852) was the leading proponent of improved agricultural methods and scientific farming in Dorchester County in the first half of the nineteenth century. He was one of the founders of the Dorchester County Agricultural Society in 1824 and performed numerous experiments with new crops.
Many of these experiments were done at Appleby Farm. Muse's efforts helped reverse the disastrous decline of Maryland farming in the early nineteenth century. He believed that it was necessary to move away from the growing of only corn and wheat toward a more diversified agriculture. Muse raised cotton, hemp, sugar beets, rice and Spanish tobacco for "segars" in his search for better crops. He also attempted to improve fertilizers and livestock breeding. These efforts encountered initial resistance from the more conservative farmers, but his work, along with that of other reformers, eventually led to a rejuvenation of farming on the Eastern Shore. This development prepared Dorchester County for the expansion of truck farming following the Civil War.

Following Muse's death the farm was sold to Thomas Holliday Hicks (1798-1865), who owned it from 1858 to 1864. Hicks was born near East New Market and served as Registrar of Wills for Dorchester County from 1838 to 1857, when he won election as governor on the American or Know-Nothing Party ticket. Although a slaveholder, Hicks opposed secession by the state in 1861. His term expired in 1862 and he was appointed to the U. S. Senate where he served until his death in 1865. Hicks is buried at Cambridge Cemetery in Cambridge where a monument marks the site.

In 1867 the house and land was sold to John Brown of Valparaiso, Chile, the father-in-law of William H. Barton, Jr. (see 615 Locust Street). On Brown's death the house passed to Barton's children where it remained until 1903. Among the later owners were W. Lake Robinson, clerk of the court and realtor, and Judge T. Sangston Insley. The present owner bought the house in 1966.

This is one of the most historically significant houses in present-day Cambridge because of its association with Governor Hicks and Dr.
Muse. It is impossible to determine the exact age of the house from the written record, although it is clear that it can be no older than 1786 when Harrison purchased the first portion of land from the Ennalls family. The Ennalls did build a house but it was on another tract of land, not the one sold to Harrison. The latest date that the house was built was probably 1808, when Muse purchased it from Lockerman. The house was remodeled during the later nineteenth century in the Queen Anne style. At present it has been divided into apartments.

Sources:

Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

Court Records.

Land Records.

Will Records.

Interview, Tressie M. Wilson, owner.

American Farmer, July 16, 1819.

__________, January 21, 1820.

__________, January 26, 1821.

__________, October 3, 1823.


Muse, Joseph E., Agricultural Notebook, Muse Family Papers, Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland.

Muse, Joseph E., Address to Agricultural Society of New-Castle County... September 18th, 1845, Wilmington:Evans and Vernon, 1845.

__________, An Address Delivered at their Tent before the Dorchester Agricultural Society...November 2, 1837, Baltimore;J.D.Toy, 1837.
Appleby
Cambridge, Maryland (continued)

An Address Upon the Dominant Errors of the Agricultural of Maryland, Delivered... before the Dorchester Agricultural Society... at the Third Exhibition and Fair, held in Cambridge, October 29, 1827, Baltimore: J.D. Toy, 1828.


Research by:
Terrance P. Walbert
1976
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME
COMMON:
Appleby
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
317 E. Appleby
CITY OR TOWN:
Cambridge
STATE:
Maryland
COUNTY:
Dorchester

3. CLASSIFICATION

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PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

□ Agricultural       □ Government       □ Park
□ Commercial         □ Industrial       □ Private Residence
□ Educational        □ Military         □ Religious
□ Entertainment      □ Museum           □ Scientific
□ Transportation     □ Other (Specify)
□ Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. & Mrs. Grady Wilson
STREET AND NUMBER:
317 Appleby
CITY OR TOWN:
Cambridge
STATE:
Maryland
21613

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Dorchester County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER:
High Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Cambridge
STATE:
Maryland
21613

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 147/676

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: 
Appleby was the home of Governor Thomas Holliday Hicks. It was probable Governor Hicks who remodeled the existing Georgian House into a "modern" Greek Revival dwelling in the 1850's. At the end of the century another owner farther remodeled the home, creating a Queen Anne style mansion of the large pile. The verticality usually associated with Queen Anne houses is lacking in Appleby due to the already existing horizontal character of the two preceding periods.

The original 18th century house consisted of a three bay long, two bay deep dwelling, two stories and one half high. It had a frame facade and brick side walls. Its roof was an unconventional combination of gambrel and "A" roof, with the gambrel part of the roof over the brick sides. The floor plan probably consisted of four rooms, one of which was the stair hall, the other three having fireplaces (this arrangement is seen in the cellar). The two main parlors had fireplaces and undoubtedly some paneling and the two chambers above still retain fine raised fielded panels. Between the two parlor chambers in the north chamber is the stair to the attic. The attic had three rooms and cuddy spaces under the "A" part of the roof. Only the north room was plastered.

Under the roof added by Hicks still exists the wide east gambrel roof with its two dormer windows and wood shingled roof applied with cut nails.

Governor Hicks added a section on the east about one eighth the size of the original house plus an extension on the north of the addition. The roof changed to a hip, using the lines of the original "A" roof as a guide. The facade is covered with beaded shiplap, part of which may be earlier than mid 19th century. On the first floor, the windows were lengthened, pilasters attached to the two corners of the facade and the door changed to include sidelights and transom. There was also some type of porch, but its extent has not yet been determined.

Finally, around the 1890's, the owner farther remodeled the dwelling, placing an octagonal tower onto the southeast corner and a square, taller tower on the southwest corner. Dormer windows were cut into the center of the roof. The west and south facades, to the center door, received double porches, the upper porch slightly narrower than below. It was probably at this time that the stair was changed and new semicircular headed windows added on the north.

The large hall with antler stair, similar in design to the Chase-Lloyd House in Annapolis, comprises the original stair hall and room behind. To the west are the two original parlors, remodeled in the Greek Revival period. Normally for that period, a huge double door would be found between the two, but here, the entire wall was removed and oddly proportioned octagonal columns, more Egyptian than Greek, were placed, creating a huge space. With the exception of

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**Condition**

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Deteriorated
- Ruins
- Unexposed

- Altered
- Unclered
- Moved
- Original Site
### Statement of Significance

Appleby is most important because it was the home of Governor Thomas Halliday Hicks between 1858-1865. It was he who undoubtedly altered the house in that period. It also appears to have been the home of several other very important people in the community. (see Laskowski Papers)

### Description of Physical Appearance Continued: #7

Modern sheet paneling, and a partition added when the building was converted into apartments, there seems little change in this part.

On the second floor, the original horizontal panels over the fireplaces with flanking closets are almost untouched. A partition was added to make two rooms of the north chamber, but little more has been done.

The recorder was not admitted to the East part of the house due to occupation by tenants.
**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

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LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

**FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER: Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis

STATE: Maryland

DATE: 11/30/72

**STATE LIASON OFFICER REVIEW:**

Significance of this property is:

- National □  State □  Local □
Appleby was the home of Governor Thomas Holliday Hicks. It was probably Governor Hicks who remodeled the existing Georgian House into a "modern" Greek Revival dwelling in the 1850's. At the end of the century another owner further remodeled the home, creating a Queen Anne Cottage of the large pile. The verticality usually associated with Queen Anne houses is lacking in Appleby due to the already existing horizontal Character of the two preceding periods.

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Governor Hicks added a section on the east about one eighth the size of the original house plus an extension on the north of the addition. The roof changed to a hip, using the lines of the original "A" roof as a guide. The facade is covered with beaded shiplap, part of which may be earlier than mid 19th. century. On the first floor, the windows were lengthened, pilisters attached to the two corners of the facade and the door changed to include sidelights and transom. There was also some type of porch, but its extent has not yet been determined.

Finally, around the 1890's, the owner farther remodeled the dwelling,
placing an octagonal tower onto the southeast corner and a square, taller tower on the southwest corner. Dormer windows were cut into the center of the roof. The west and south facades, to the center door, received double porches, the upper porch slightly more narrow than below. It was probably at this time that the stair was changed and new semicircular headed windows added on the north.

The large hall with antler stair, similar in design to the Chase-Lloyd House in Annapolis, comprises the original stair hall and room behind. To the west are the two original parlors, remodeled in the Greek Revival period. Normally for that period, a huge double door would be found between the two, but here, the entire wall was removed and oddly proportioned octagonal columns, more Egyptian than Greek, was placed, creating a huge space. With the exception of modern sheet paneling, and a partition added when the building was converted into apartments, there seems little change in this part.

On the second floor, the original horizontal panels over the fireplaces with flanking closets are almost untouched. A partition was added to make the two rooms of the north chamber, but little more has been done.

Access was not gained to the east portion of the house, as there apartments therein.

Appleby would be an excellent house to measure as it involves three substantially different styles of American Architecture. Also, because it would be relatively simple to take away the addition to reveal the houses in the preceding two phases, and it could shed light on the remodelings of major houses throughout Maryland.
Lake, Griffing, & Stevenson
1877