

D-22
Ridgeton
Taylor's Island
1857-60
Private

Ridgeton exemplifies the transition in the national building traditions during the mid nineteenth century, and it survives as one of the best preserved Italianate influenced dwellings on the Eastern Shore. Built in 1857-60 by Levi D. Travers, Jr. (1828-1903), the two-and-a-half story, center hall/double-pile plan frame house was assembled with a combination of materials from this Taylor's Island farm as well as supplies shipped down the Chesapeake from Baltimore. Exposed in the attic is a heavy timber roof frame centered around a hand-hewn octagonal post that supports the pyramidal hip rafters and associated roof members. A combination of adze and saw marks indicate the large framing timbers were reduced in size to the required dimensioned lumber by hand as well as machine technology.

The exterior of the blockish proportioned main house, enhanced around its roof perimeter by machine sawn brackets, also features factory-made doors, windows, and shutters. Rising through the roof are massive brick chimney stacks finished with paneled sides and decorative corbelled and dentiled caps. Other than paint schemes, the interior has experienced few alterations since its construction with an intact turned baluster staircase, Greek Revival inspired door surrounds and mantels, and intricate ceiling plaster borders and medallions. Attached to the back of the main block is a story-and-a-half kitchen wing that dates from the same construction period. Originally the second floor loft of the wing, occupied by servants, was a segregated space with no direct access to the second floor of the main house. During the early twentieth century the roof was

modified on one side to allow for an access door to be cut through to the mid-level stair landing on the staircase. A third section, remodeled during the mid to late twentieth century, incorporates an early nineteenth century structure that is distinguished inside with an exposed, beaded beam ceiling and a cistern in the attic. The house is located in a mature landscape of trees and shrubs with a circular drive that dates as far back as the third quarter of the nineteenth century.

During the mid nineteenth century, planter Levi D. Travers, Jr. assumed the role as one of the most prominent land owners in Dorchester County, and he applied his abilities and leading position to several significant building projects in his lifetime. His land holdings, extending over 2,000 acres, were worked by twenty-one slaves, who were accounted as part of his significant wealth in the 1860 U.S. Census. His combined real estate and personal property were valued at \$55,000, a tremendous sum for a 31-year old planter. He is grouped in the census with his wife, Eliza, also 31, son Levi, aged 7, and eleven-month old Mary. In 1857, at age 29, he embarked on the construction of this impressive frame dwelling in the center of Taylor's Island, property that was known as the Ridge farm. Although the existence of his construction journal now remains in question, citations from it transcribed during the 1970s recorded the gradual process of house construction over the course of three years, beginning in early 1857 with the cutting of timber from his property. Entries recorded his trips to Baltimore to purchase stair parts, locks, and other hardware as well as securing craftsmen to execute complex masonry and plastering projects. The total cost of the building project, which included a range of new outbuildings, reached \$5,000, and he spent another \$1,500 on interior furnishings. At the same time Levi Travers was supervising the construction of his own

house, he was a member of the building committee established to finance a new Bethlehem Methodist Episcopal Church within a mile of the farm (See D-24).

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-22

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Ridgeton

other _____

2. Location

street and number 4145 Bay Shore Road not for publication

city, town Taylor's Island x vicinity

county Dorchester

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

name John S. and Ann J. Neild, Jr.

street and number 5110 North Drive telephone

city, town Cambridge state MD zip code

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber 417 folio 129

city, town Cambridge tax map 59 tax parcel 177 tax ID number 061489

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
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:
			Contributing <u>1</u>
			Noncontributing _____
			buildings _____
			sites _____
			structures _____
			objects _____
			Total <u>1</u>
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

Inventory No. D-22

Condition

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

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Ridgeton or Ridgeton Farm is a highly important agricultural property centered in Taylor's Island, Dorchester County, Maryland. Located at 4145 Bay Shore Road, the two-and-a-half story, three-bay by three-bay Italianate inspired frame house stands in the midst of a mature landscape with a circular drive that dates to the third quarter of the nineteenth century. Built in 1857-60, the center hall/double-pile plan frame dwelling is supported on a high brick pier foundation, and the exterior is clad with plain weatherboards. The blockish proportioned main house is capped by a broad, cross-gabled pyramidal roof capped at its peak with a rooftop balustrade. Stretching across the front of the house is an original hip roofed porch. The interior has survived essentially unaltered since its construction during the mid nineteenth century. Attached to the back of the main block is a story-and-half kitchen wing that is contemporaneous with the main block. Extending further to the rear is a modified single-story section that incorporates an older generation structure that was moved to this location when the main block was erected. The third section has been reworked with a mid to late twentieth century roofline that was introduced when this section was enlarged.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Ridgeton or Ridgeton Farm is a prominent mid nineteenth century frame house that stands at 4145 Bay Shore Road in the center of Taylor's Island, Dorchester County, Maryland. The center hall/double-pile plan frame house, erected in 1857-60, faces southeast and is situated in a mature landscape of trees and shrubs at the head of a circular drive that is as old as the house. The property is depicted in the 1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas of Talbot and Dorchester Counties. Supported on a raised brick pier foundation, the exterior is sheathed with plain weatherboard siding, and the pyramidal roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The four even slopes of the roof rise to a rooftop balustrade.

The southeast (main) elevation is a symmetrical three-bay façade with the first story sheltered by a hip roofed porch supported on square posts. The eave of the porch is enhanced with brackets. Inside the porch, the wall openings include a large double-door entrance, framed by three-light sidelights and a five-light transom. The entire entrance is surmounted by a bold bracketed entablature enhanced with a dentiled bed molding. The brackets follow the shape of a scroll and have fluted fronts. To each side are paired four-over-six sash windows flanked by long louvered shutters. All of the hardware on the door and windows appears original to the mid nineteenth century. The second story is an asymmetrical façade punctuated by a center, tripartite window and flanking paired four-over-four sash windows. The center four-over-four sash window has two-over-two sidelights and a bracketed lintel. The paired windows to each side are flanked by louvered shutters. Defining the center of the roof is a cross gable roof form that extends forward from the pyramidal slope. It is pierced in its center by a round arched four-pane window opening. The eave of the roof is enhanced with a series of heavy, mass-produced, carved brackets.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-22

Name Ridgeton
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

The northeast and southwest side elevations are largely alike with a slightly asymmetrical three-bay elevation with six-over-six sash windows piercing the first and second stories. Each window opening is flanked with louvered shutters, and the edge of the roof is defined by a bracketed eave. The massive brick chimney stacks rise through the side roof slopes. A recessed paneled chimney stack rests on a slightly larger base, and the top is finished with a corbelled cap featuring a brick dentil row.

The northwest (rear) elevation is partially covered by the story-and-a-half kitchen wing, which is extended on each side by shed roofed porches. The porch on the southwest side is enclosed, while the porch on the northeast side remains open. The northeast roof slope has been altered to a higher pitched so as to allow for an interior door opening between the second floor of the wing and the landing on the double-run staircase. The southwest roof slope retains mid nineteenth century gable roofed dormers. Piercing the gable end is an interior end brick stack finished with a dentil decorated cap. The third section is a single-story structure covered by a low pitched roof. While appearing modern from the outside, the third section incorporates an early nineteenth century structure that has several exposed beaded joists. The roofline of this section was broadened when a bedroom was added on the northeast side.

Inside the main block, the rooms, other than paint schemes, have remained essentially unchanged since the mid nineteenth century. The spacious hall is finished with tall neoclassical door surrounds that frame six-panel doors. A molded plaster border enhances the ceiling. Fixed in the north end of the passage is a dog-leg staircase with a turned newel post, turned balusters, and a continuous walnut handrail.

The southeast front room, clearly the drawing room or parlor, retains all of its original mid nineteenth century woodwork. Projecting into the room is a chimney breast accented with a fluted pilaster mantel. The well detailed pilasters rise to a fluted frieze panel that supports a thick mantel shelf. The perimeter of the room features a high molded edge baseboard, and the ceiling is enhanced with a plaster border with a center ceiling medallion.

8. Significance

Inventory No. D-22

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 history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates 1857-60

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 projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Ridgeton exemplifies the transition in the building traditions during the mid nineteenth century, and it survives as one of the best preserved Italianate influenced dwellings on the Eastern Shore. Built in 1857-60 by Levi D. Travers, Jr. (1828-1903), the two-story, center hall/double-pile plan frame dwelling was assembled with a combination of materials from the this Taylor's Island farm as well as supplies shipped down the Chesapeake from Baltimore. Exposed in the attic is the heavy timber roof frame that forms the pyramidal roof. A combination of adze and saw marks indicate large timbers were reduced in size to dimensioned lumber by hand and machine technology. Centered in the attic is an hand-hewn octagonal post that supports the roof frame. The blockish proportioned house, enhanced around the perimeter of the roof with machine sawn eave brackets, also features factory-made doors, windows, and shutters. Rising through the roof are massive brick chimney stacks finished with paneled sides and corbelled caps. The interior has experienced few changes since its construction with an intact turned baluster staircase, Greek Revival inspired door surrounds and mantels, and intricate ceiling plaster. Attached to the back of the main block is a story-and-a-half kitchen wing that dates from the same period as the main block. Originally, the second floor loft, was occupied by servants, and there was no access on the second floor between two sections. During the early twentieth century, the roof of the wing was raised on one side to accommodate an access door between sections. A third section, remodeled during the late twentieth century, incorporates an early nineteenth century structure that is distinguished inside with an exposed beam ceiling. The house is located in a mature landscape of trees and shrubs with a circular drive that dates as far back as the third quarter of the nineteenth century.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

During the third quarter of the nineteenth century, planter Levi D. Travers, Jr. assumed the role as one of the most prominent land owners in Dorchester County, and he applied his abilities and leading position to several significant building projects in his lifetime.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-22

Name Ridgeton Farm
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

His land holdings, extending over 2,000 acres¹, were worked by twenty-one slaves, who were accounted as part of his wealth in the 1860 U.S. Census. His combined real estate and personal property were valued at \$55,000, a tremendous sum for a 31-year old planter. He is grouped in the census with his wife, Eliza, also 31, son Levi, aged 7, and eleven month old Mary.² In 1857, at age 29, he embarked on the construction this impressive frame dwelling in the center of his Taylor's Island property known as the Ridge Farm. Although the existence of his construction journal now remains in question, citations from it transcribed during the 1970s recorded the gradual process of house construction over the course of three years, beginning in early 1857 with the cutting of timber from his property. Entries recorded his trips to Baltimore to purchase stair parts, locks and other hardware as well as securing craftsman to execute complex masonry and plastering projects. The total cost of the building project, which included a range of new outbuildings, reached \$5,000, and he spent another \$1,500 on interior furnishings.³ At the same time Levi Travers was supervising the construction of his own house, he was a member of the building committee established to finance a new Bethlehem Methodist Episcopal Church within a mile of the farm. (See D-24)

¹ John L. Graham, *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*. Wicomico Bicentennial Committee, p. 84.

² Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Population and Slave Schedules. Ancestry.com.

³ The location of the Ridgeton construction journal is now in question. These citations were included in the National Register nomination prepared by Michael Bourne, in August 1976. The owner of the construction journal and other account books was a great-granddaughter of Levi D. Travers, Jean Noble Chaffinch.

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

Inventory No. D-22

Name Ridgeton Farm
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

Ridgeton
Bay Shore Road
Taylor's Island, Dorchester County, Maryland

417/129

John S. Neild, Jr, Personal Representative of the Estate of Mabel
S. Neild, late of Dorchester County, et al.

to

12.20.1999

Ridgeton Farms, Inc.

"Ridgeton Farms," or "Upper Ridgeton Farm" and sometimes
known as the Prettyman Farm

Certificate of Survey, December 1934 123 acres

PLC 101/557

Harry A. Boswell, et al.

to

11.15.1956

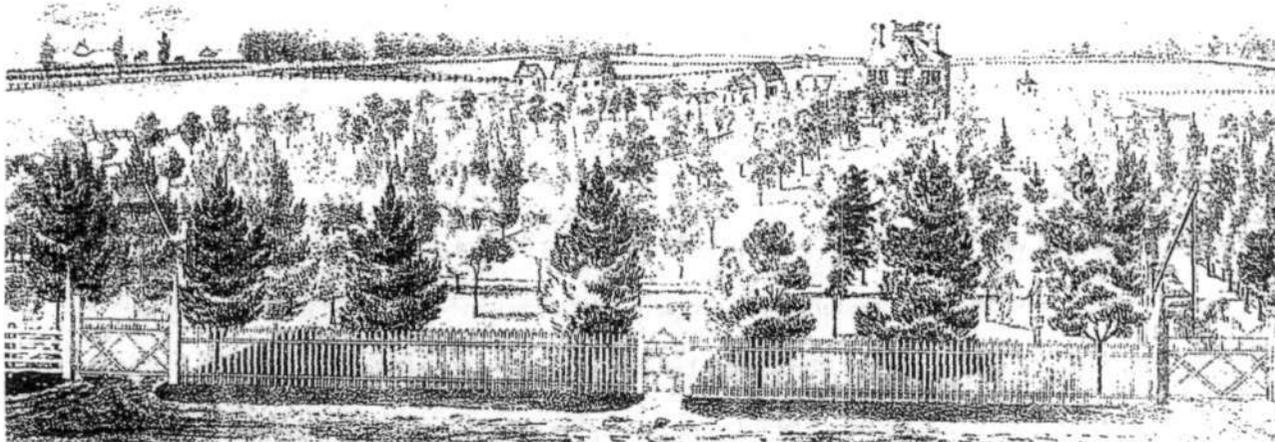
J. Stapleforte Neild and Mabel Neild, his wife

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-22

Name Ridgeton
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1



Ridgeton, lithograph, *Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas of Dorchester & Talbot Counties*, Philadelphia, 1877.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-22

Name Ridgeton
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 2

D-22
Ridgeton
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1857-60
Private

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Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-22

Name Ridgeton
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 3

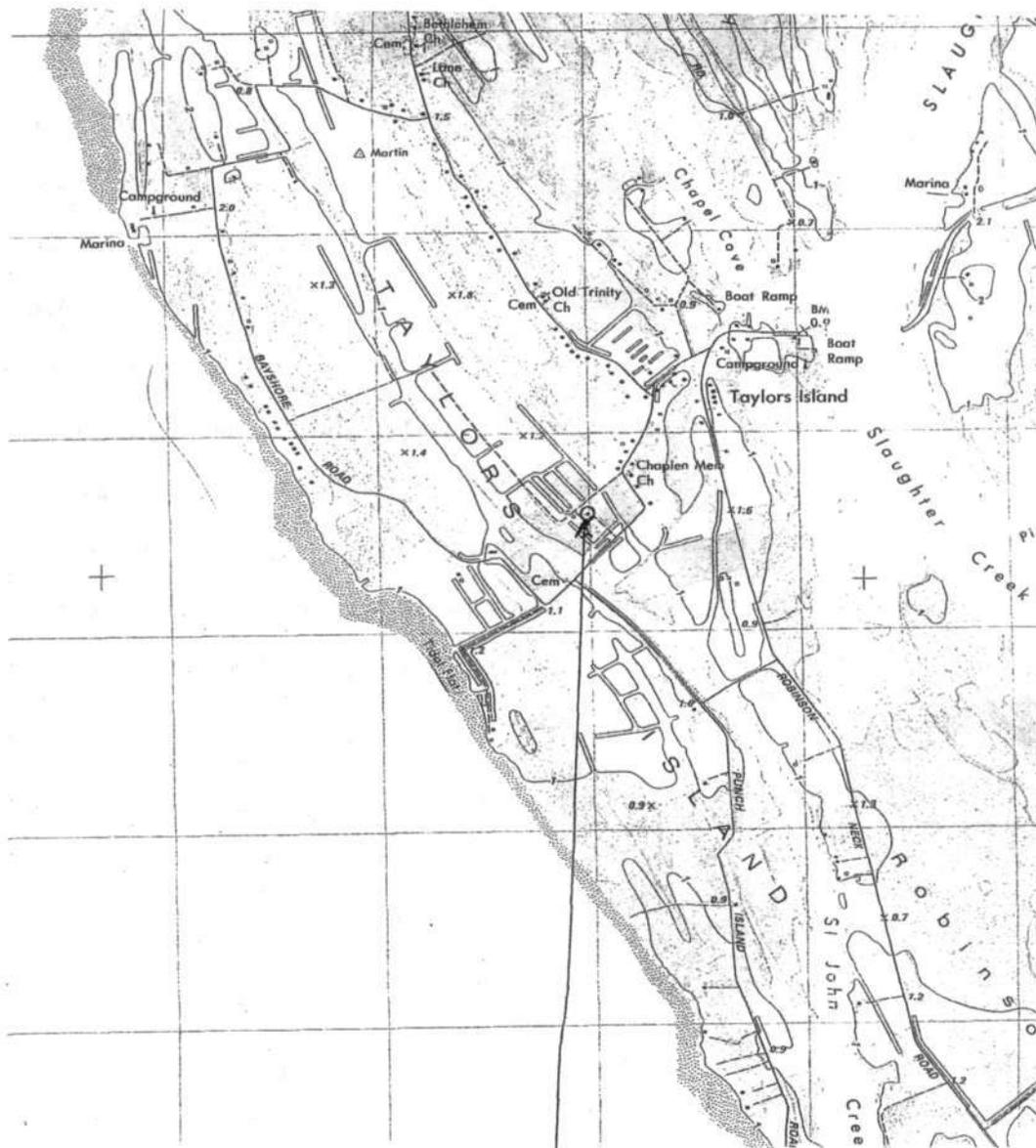
During the mid nineteenth century, planter Levi D. Travers, Jr. assumed the role as one of the most prominent land owners in Dorchester County, and he applied his abilities and leading position to several significant building projects in his lifetime. His land holdings, extending over 2,000 acres, were worked by twenty-one slaves, who were accounted as part of his significant wealth in the 1860 U.S. Census. His combined real estate and personal property were valued at \$55,000, a tremendous sum for a 31-year old planter. He is grouped in the census with his wife, Eliza, also 31, son Levi, aged 7, and eleven-month old Mary. In 1857, at age 29, he embarked on the construction of this impressive frame dwelling in the center of Taylor's Island, property that was known as the Ridge farm. Although the existence of his construction journal now remains in question, citations from it transcribed during the 1970s recorded the gradual process of house construction over the course of three years, beginning in early 1857 with the cutting of timber from his property. Entries recorded his trips to Baltimore to purchase stair parts, locks, and other hardware as well as securing craftsmen to execute complex masonry and plastering projects. The total cost of the building project, which included a range of new outbuildings, reached \$5,000, and he spent another \$1,500 on interior furnishings. At the same time Levi Travers was supervising the construction of his own house, he was a member of the building committee established to finance a new Bethlehem Methodist Episcopal Church within a mile of the farm (See D-24).

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-22

Name Ridgeton
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 4



D-22, Ridgeton
Taylor's Island Quadrangle

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-22

Name Ridgeton
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 6



D-22, Ridgeton, Taylor's Island

Map of Little Choptank or Hudson River
including the Bay Shore from Cook's Point
to Meekins Neck

Survey October 1847, and May, June, July
1848

By Capt. Jos. E. Johnston, U.S. Topograph-
ical Engineer & E. Blunt

Superintendent U.S. Coast Survey, A. D. Bache

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-22

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse.
Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Population and Slave Schedules, Ancestry.com.
Interview with John S. "Pat" Neild, Jr. October 2010.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 23 acres
Acreage of historical setting Several Hundred acres
Quadrangle name Taylor's Island, MD Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

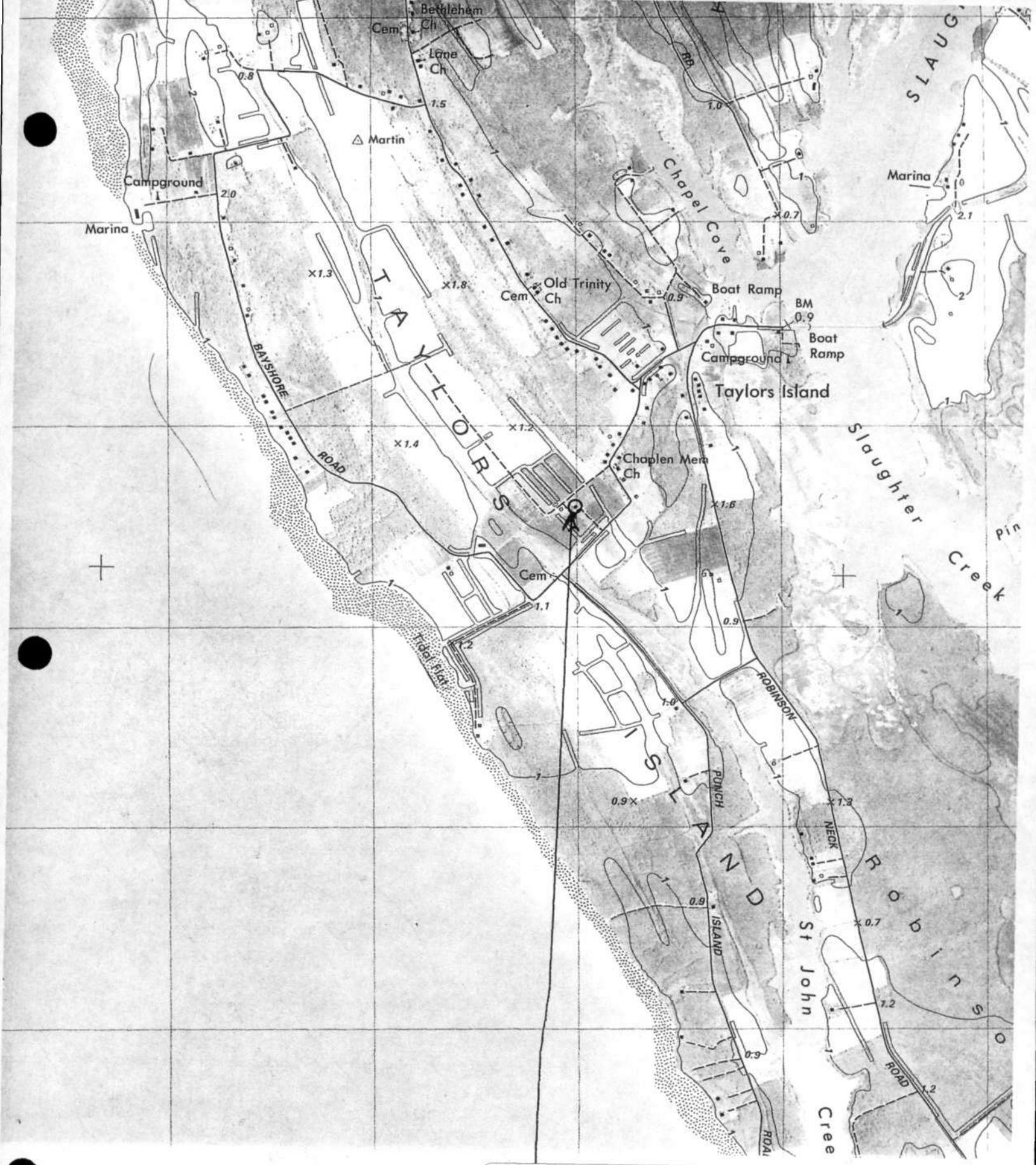
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	10/18/2010
street & number	Cedar Hill, P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

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 21032-2023
410-514-7600



D-22, Ridgeton
Taylor's Island Quadrangle



D-22

RIDGETON

TAYLOR'S ISLAND, DORCHESTER Co. MD.

SOUTH ELEVATION

9.2009, PAUL B. TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHER
WES. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

1 of 6



D-22

RIDGEWAY

Taylor's Island, DUKITCHTON C. MD.

ENTRANCE ENTRANCE

9.2009, PAUL B. TOURRI, PITUVU.

WFG. / M.D. HISTORICAL TRUST

256



D-22

RIDGESTON

Taylor's Island, Dorchester Co. MD
Central Hall

9. 2009, Paul B. Touart, PITOTUSKAPPA
NEB. / MD HISTORICAL TRUST

3 of 6



D-22

RIDGEMONT

Taylor's Island

DUNSTON 'C', MD.

9.2.09, Pam B. Fournier,

PROVINCIAL

NB2 / MD. Historical

Trust

4 of 6



D-22

RIDGEWAY

TAYLOR'S ISLAND, DOCKITZTON Cr.

9. 2009, PAUL B. TOWNS, PITNEY ^{MS.}

NET/MS. HISTORICAL TRUST

5 of 6



D-22

RIDGE TOWN

Taylor's Island, POKOKISTON Co. MD.

9. 2009, PAUL B. TOWALD, PITTSV.

WEL / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

6 of 6

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Ridgeton Farm

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Bay Shore Road, .5 miles southwest of
Taylor Island Town

CITY, TOWN

Taylor's Island

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

CODE
24

COUNTY

Dorchester

CODE

019

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**

DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC
 PRIVATE

 BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

IN PROCESS
 BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED
 UNOCCUPIED
 WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED
 YES: UNRESTRICTED
 NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE MUSEUM
 COMMERCIAL PARK
 EDUCATIONAL PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 ENTERTAINMENT RELIGIOUS
 GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC
 INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION
 MILITARY OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. J. Stapleforte Neild

STREET & NUMBER

Taylor's Island

CITY, TOWN

Taylor's Island

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland 21669

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Dorchester County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland 21613

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

D-22

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Ridgeton Farm is located on the east side of Bay Shore Road, one-half mile southwest of Taylor Island Town, on Taylor's Island, Dorchester County, Maryland.

The house is an Italianate style, frame mansion of two stories raised about four feet above grade and resting on a brick foundation. It is three bays long and three bays deep and has a hipped roof with a center gable, a widow's walk and two huge chimneys.

The facade has a one story screened porch with pairs of square columns supporting the roof. Its cornice is composed of shaped brackets with drop finials. The main cornice is slightly heavier and the brackets are pierced. Double windows of the facade have four-over-four pane sash and louvered shutters. The central window of the second story is composed of three parts with a cornice above. Shutters are lacking on the latter as well as the small window in the gable. Remaining windows have 6/6 sash. The huge chimneys which flank the widow's walk are remarkable in that they have a set-back, as well as a recessed panel in each face, and decorative cap.

The floor plan of both stories is composed of a central stair hall with two rooms on each side. The same plan exists on the second story. The hall and parlor ceilings have some elegant pierced plaster work along the border as well as a medallion in the center of the ceilings. The door and window architecture resembles the work of the Greek Revival period. Mantels around each of the eight fireplaces are wood and of the simple design of that period.

From the front of the second floor hall an enclosed stair ascends to the attic. The attic houses a large octagonal king post to which the rafters are fastened by spike and nails. The rafters are hewn and pit sawn, and the flooring bears marks of a circular saw.

A flight of steps ascends to a hatch which opens onto the widow's walk. From the latter one can view the surrounding farm lands and marshes as well as the Chesapeake Bay and across twelve miles to Calvert County.

There is a one and one-half story wing to the rear and a one story wing, the former reputedly an earlier structure.

*Note, 6/1977: Also on the property stands a complex of outbuildings, including a barn and sheds.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1857-1860

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

During the second half of the nineteenth century, this imposing Victorian mansion was the seat of one of the most influential men in the county and the center of a prosperous farm. Today, in spite of its succession of owners, Ridgeton wears its 120 years with grace and dignity, and is one of the most important Victorian-style dwellings in Maryland.

Ridgeton was constructed between 1857 and 1860 by Levi D. Travers, Jr., on land that had been in the possession of the Travers family for at least half a century. Travers was descended from Henry Travers, a schoolteacher who emigrated from England before 1750, became a justice for Dorchester County, and served in the colonial legislature. The family increased and amassed extensive landholdings on Taylor's Island; in the Tax Assessment of 1783, eight members of the Travers family accounted for the ownership of nearly 1,200 acres of land on the island. John C. Travers, the grandfather of the builder of Ridgeton, combined farming and shipbuilding with mercantile activities. The story is told of his wife, Mary Dove Travers, who boarded the flagship of the British fleet during the War of 1812 and successfully negotiated the surrender of one of her husband's captured merchant vessels. Legend also claims that, as a member of the local militia, John C. Travers took part in the capture of a British vessel in Tobacco Stick, now Madison Bay, but his name does not appear on a list of those authorized by Congress in 1817 to receive a bounty for their participation in the action.

Levi D. Travers, the son of John C. Travers, expanded his father's agricultural and mercantile interests. On the last day of 1834, he obtained a patent for a tract of land on Taylor's Island to be known as "Traverse Conclusion", the product of a resurvey of five contiguous properties that Travers had inherited. The 300½-acre tract included over one-half of Taylor's Folly", together with parts of "Hazzard", "Intent", "Traverse Adventure", and Robsons Folly". Upon his death in 1844, Traver's son, Levi D. Travers, Jr., inherited "Traverse Conclusion" which was by then commonly known as the Ridge Farm or Farms.

Born on November 21, 1828, Levi D. Travers, Jr. was only sixteen years old when he came into possession of nearly 400 acres of land

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET Ridgeton Farm
Taylor's Island, ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1
Maryland

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

and his father's business enterprises. After a period of study for the Methodist ministry at Dickinson College in Pennsylvania, Travers decided to return to Taylor's Island to administer his properties. Here he made his home for the rest of his life, becoming deeply involved in the political affairs of the county and the state. Travers was twice elected judge of the orphan's court and was appointed by Governor Thomas King Carroll to fill a vacancy in the office of the chief justice; thus, even though he received no formal training in the law, Travers was known in the community as "Judge Travers". During his career, Travers served on the Dorchester County school board, and as both member and chaplain of the Maryland Senate. He was at one time president of one insurance company in the county and a director of another; Travers also preached to Methodist congregations in the area, and was secretary of nearby Bethlehem Methodist Church (D-24).

The site on which Ridgeton was constructed appears to have been occupied by farm buildings and a dwelling house before 1857. In an 1858 journal entry, Travers mentioned having "moved dwelling house and stables at Ridge". The two-story main house, measuring forty feet square and embellished with rich Victorian detailing, is adjoined by a smaller, one-and-a-half-story wing which has always served as a kitchen. This kitchen wing appears to have predated the main structure, and may have been moved from elsewhere on the farm to the building site. In 1860, however, Travers recorded in his journal the total cost of erecting and furnishing his new home; he included in these calculations a "back building, 22 ft. by 15 with 1 story 10 ft. pitch with cistern attached". The most likely explanation for this seeming contradiction is that Travers had to carry out an extensive remodeling of the existing dwelling in order to adapt it for its intended use.

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See continuation sheet #1

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Ridgeton Farm
Taylor's Island
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

area to do the more specialized plastering and masonry. It is clear from his journal entries that Travers spared no expense for his new residence. In 1860 he estimated the cost of building Ridgeton to have reached \$5,000., with another \$1,500. having been spent on furnishings.

Travers occupied Ridgeton until his death in May 1907, at which time his estate was in danger of forced sale to settle debts. He managed to leave Ridgeton to his daughter Augusta, wife of Daniel B. Prettyman, as well as making other bequests to his son, Levi Dickinson Travers, and daughter, Manie Travers Noble. Clause 15 of Travers' will stipulated that in the event of her death, Ridgeton should pass from Augusta Prettyman to her son, Levi D. Travers Prettyman; this, in fact, occurred, although the younger Prettyman deeded the property to his father in 1919. At this point ownership of Ridgeton passed from the direct descendants of Levi D. Travers; in 1956 the house and farm were purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Stapleforte Neild, the present owners and residents of Ridgeton.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

D-22

See attached sheet #3

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant/Randolph M. Cornell

Summer Intern

bjn

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE
8/76

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

TELEPHONE
267-1212

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE
Maryland 21401

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

Ridgeton Farm
Taylor's Island,
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 3

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Interview with Mrs. Jean Noble Chaffinch, great-granddaughter of Levi D. Travers, Jr., and owner of his journals and count books.

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Jones, Elias. New Revised History of Dorchester County, Maryland. Cambridge, Md.:
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Richardson, Hester Dorsey. Side-Lights on Maryland History. Cambridge, Md.:
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"Hon. Levi D. Travers", in Portrait and Biographical Record of the Eastern Shore of Maryland. New York:
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Ridgeton Farm

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Bay Shore Road, .5 miles southwest of Taylor Island Town

CITY, TOWN

Taylor's Island VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

CODE 24

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT First

COUNTY Dorchester

CODE 019

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES, RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES, UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr. and Mrs. J. Stapleforte Neild

STREET & NUMBER

Taylor's Island

CITY, TOWN

Taylor's Island VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland 21669

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Dorchester County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland 21613

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

D-22

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Ridgeton Farm is located on the east side of Bay Shore Road, one-half mile southwest of Taylor Island Town, on Taylor's Island, Dorchester County, Maryland.

The house is an Italianate style, frame mansion of two stories raised about four feet above grade and resting on a brick foundation. It is three bays long and three bays deep and has a hipped roof with a center gable, a widow's walk and two huge chimneys.

The facade has a one story screened porch with pairs of square columns supporting the roof. Its cornice is composed of shaped brackets with drop finials. The main cornice is slightly heavier and the brackets are pierced. Double windows of the facade have four-over-four pane sash and louvered shutters. The central window of the second story is composed of three parts with a cornice above. Shutters are lacking on the latter as well as the small window in the gable. Remaining windows have 6/6 sash. The huge chimneys which flank the widow's walk are remarkable in that they have a set-back, as well as a recessed panel in each face, and decorative cap.

The floor plan of both stories is composed of a central stair hall with two rooms on each side. The same plan exists on the second story. The hall and parlor ceilings have some elegant pierced plaster work along the border as well as a medallion in the center of the ceilings. The door and window architecture resembles the work of the Greek Revival period. Mantels around each of the eight fireplaces are wood and of the simple design of that period.

From the front of the second floor hall an enclosed stair ascends to the attic. The attic houses a large octagonal king post to which the rafters are fastened by spike and nails. The rafters are hewn and pit sawn, and the flooring bears marks of a circular saw.

A flight of steps ascends to a hatch which opens onto the widow's walk. From the latter one can view the surrounding farm lands and marshes as well as the Chesapeake Bay and across twelve miles to Calvert County.

There is a one and one-half story wing to the rear and a one story wing, the former reputedly an earlier structure.

*Also on property: complex of 14th C. barn - sheds.
 (6/77)*

SIGNIFICANCE

D-22

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1857-1860

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

During the second half of the nineteenth century, this imposing Victorian mansion was the seat of one of the most influential men in the county and the center of a prosperous farm. Today, in spite of its succession of owners, Ridgeton wears its 120 years with grace and dignity, and is one of the most important Victorian-style dwellings in Maryland.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET Ridgeton Farm
Taylor's Island, ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1
Maryland

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

and his father's business enterprises. After a period of study for the Methodist ministry at Dickinson College in Pennsylvania, Travers decided to return to Taylor's Island to administer his properties. Here he made his home for the rest of his life, becoming deeply involved in the political affairs of the county and the state. Travers was twice elected judge of the orphan's court and was appointed by Governor Thomas King Carroll to fill a vacancy in the office of the chief justice; thus, even though he received no formal training in the law, Travers was known in the community as "Judge Travers". During his career, Travers served on the Dorchester County school board, and as both member and chaplain of the Maryland Senate. He was at one time president of one insurance company in the county and a director of another; Travers also preached to Methodist congregations in the area, and was secretary of nearby Bethlehem Methodist Church (D-24).

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See continuation sheet #1

D-72

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Ridgeton Farm
Taylor's Island
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

D-22

See attached sheet #3

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 15 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	3,8,6	04,0	4,2	5,7	70,0	B	1,8	3,8,6	1,4,0	4,2	5,7	5,6,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING
C	1,8	3,8,5	9,4,0	4,2	5,7	4,0,0	D	1,8	3,8,5	8,2,0	4,2	5,7	5,0,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point 600 feet S.W. of Hooper Neck Road on the driveway running behind Ridgeton Farm, then S.W. on that driveway 800 feet to its intersection with another dirt road, then S.E. 500 feet, then N.E. 900 feet, then N.W. 600 feet to the point of the beginning.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant Summer Intern Randolph M. Cornell bjn

ORGANIZATION Maryland Historical Trust

DATE 8/76

STREET & NUMBER 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE 267-1212

CITY OR TOWN Annapolis

STATE Maryland 21401

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE John N. Pence

DATE 4/21/77

TITLE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Ridgeton Farm
Taylor's Island,
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 3

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Hon. Levi D. Travers", in Portrait and Biographical Record of the Eastern Shore of Maryland. New York: Chapman Publishing Company, 1898.

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncluttered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>Ridgeton Farm is an Italianate style, frame mansion, located in the center of Taylor's Island. The two story building is raised about four feet above grade and rests on a brick foundation. It is three bays long and three bays deep with hipped roof having a center gable, a widow's walk and two huge chimneys. There is also a two story wing to the rear and a one and one-half story wing, the latter reputedly an earlier structure.</p> <p>The facade has a one story screened porch with pairs of square columns supporting the roof. Its cornice is composed of shaped brackets with drop finials. The main cornice is slightly heavier and the brackets are pierced. Double windows of the facade have four over four pane sash, and louvered shutters. The central windows of the second story is composed of three parts with a cornice above. Shutters are lacking on the latter as well as the small window in the gable. Remaining windows have 6/6 sash. The huge chimneys which flank the widow's walk are remarkable in that they have a set-back, as well as a recessed panel in each face, and decorative cap.</p> <p>The floor plan of both storys is composed of a central stair hall with two rooms on each side. The same plan exists on the second story. The hall and parlor ceilings have some elegant pierced plaster work along the border as well as a medallion in the center of the ceilings. The door and window architecture resemble the work of the Greek Revival period. Mantels around each of the eight fireplaces are wood and of simple design of that period.</p> <p>From the front of the second floor hall, an enclosed stair ascends to the attic. The attic houses a large octagonal King post to which the rafters are fastened by spike and nails. The rafters are hewn and pit sawn, and the flooring bears marks of a circular saw!</p> <p>A flight of steps ascends to a hatch which opens onto the widow's walk. From the latter one can view the surrounding farm lands and marshes as well as the Chesapeake Bay and across twelve miles to Calvert County.</p> <p>There is a one and one-half story wing to the rear and a one story wing, the former reputedly an earlier structure.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. 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)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> Art
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Education
<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering
<input type="checkbox"/> Industry
<input type="checkbox"/> Invention
<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> Literature
<input type="checkbox"/> Military
<input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Political
<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-
losophy
<input type="checkbox"/> Science
<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-
itarian
<input type="checkbox"/> Theater
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 2px;"/> |
|---|--|---|--|

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is the most outstanding Ante-bellum dwelling remaining in Dorchester County. Although the styles are a little muddled, it has an air of sophistication not found in the outlying districts of Dorchester County. It was constructed in 1859 by Judge Levi D. Travers, who was a prosperous planter as well as a successful lawyer.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dorchester Atlas, Lake Griffing Stevenson, Baltimore, 1877.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

District 4, Tax Map 58

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: March, 1975

STREET AND NUMBER:
Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland 21401

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature _____

20'

(SHARPS ISLAND)



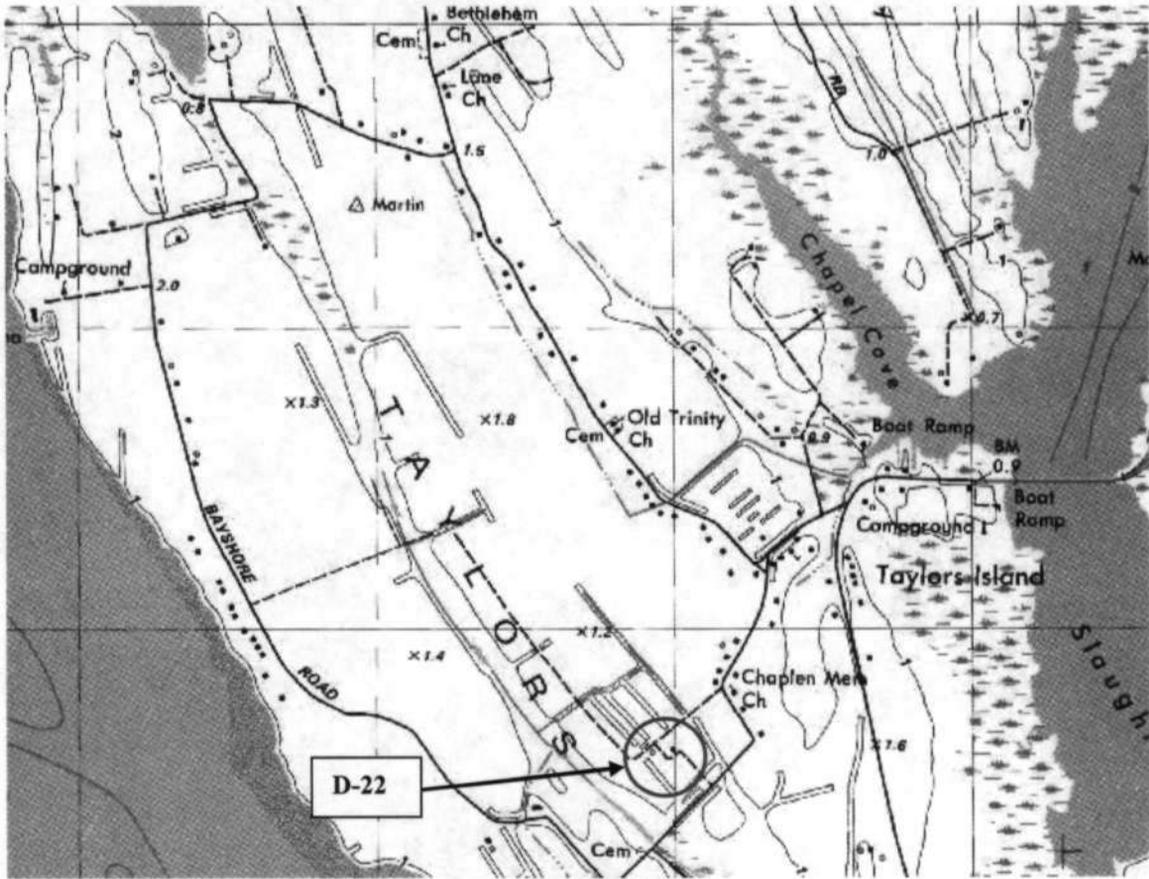
Taylor's Island Quad⁺

Ridgton Farm

S

A

D-22
Ridgeton Farm
Bayshore Road
Taylors Island Quadrangle



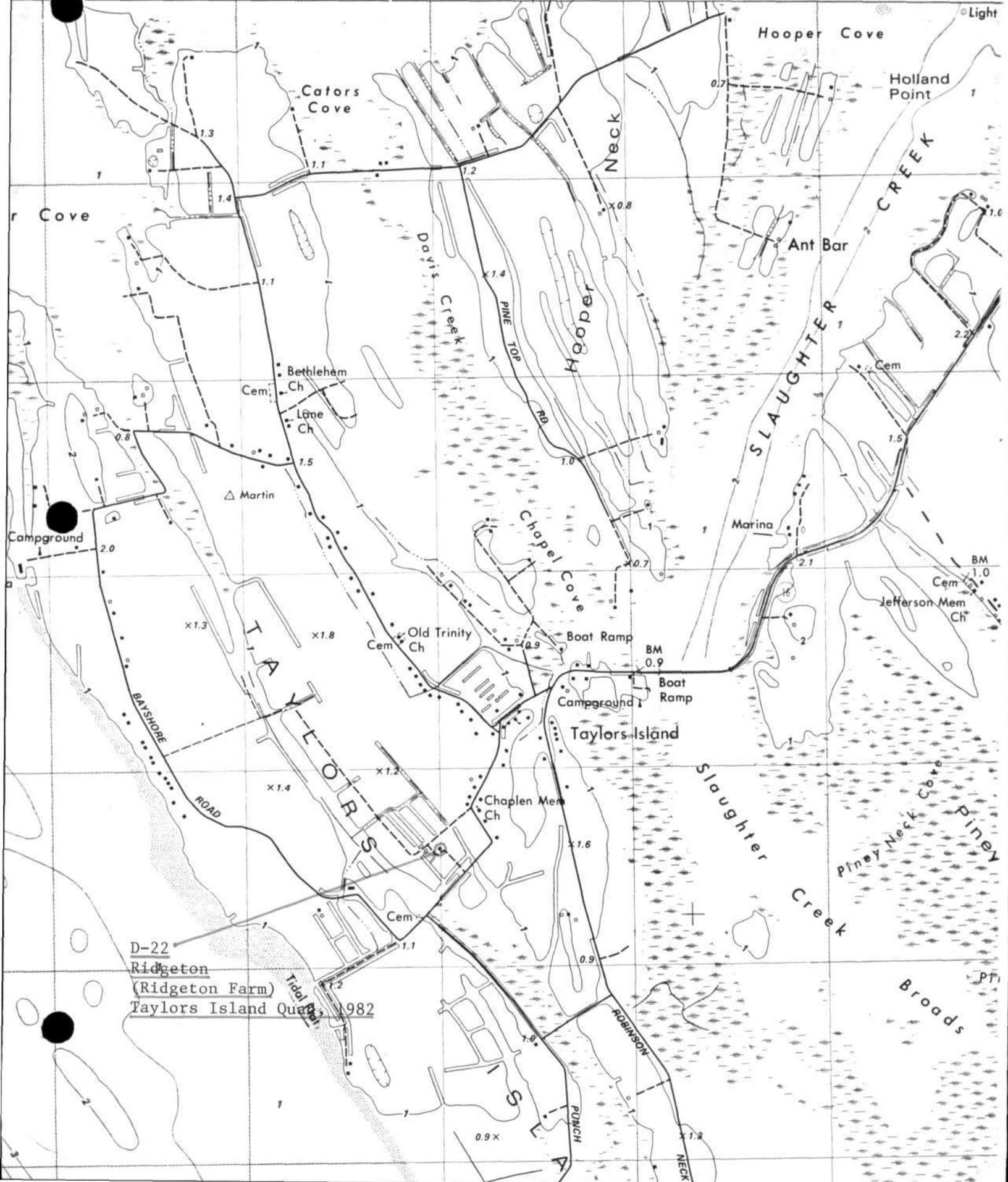
1998 Aerial Photo

Tax Map 59



5761 III SE (HUDSON)

384 385 386 387 388 17'30"



D-22
 Ridgeton
 (Ridgeton Farm)
 Taylors Island Quar... 1982

.13 X 1.63 75% D-22



D- 22

RIDGETON FARM
Taylor's Island
Dorchester County, Md.
Photographed by Michael Bourne
1975
Exterior, from S.E.

M. Bourne

March 1975