

G-III-B-158

Rock Lodge  
McHenry  
private

1919; 1927

Rock Lodge is located about a quarter of a mile west off Rock Lodge Road, near Cherry Creek Cove of Deep Creek Lake. The property, consisting of the main house, or lodge; a guest house, and a combination caretakers' house and garage, is situated in a secluded woodland setting.

The complex is approached by a long driveway that winds through woods and banks of rhododendrons. Small areas of lawn have been cleared along the drive for benches.

The lodge, an extensive one story dwelling built of native sandstone, embodies the basic characteristics of the sophisticated "bungalow" or rustic lodge developed during the Arts and Crafts Movement. The long, low profile with deep overhanging eaves is also characteristic of Wright's Prairie School architecture.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

G-III-B-158  
MAGI #1207745725

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY <sup>NR</sup>

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Rock Lodge

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Rock Lodge Road, north side, approximately 1 mile North of State Park Road

CITY, TOWN

McHenry

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Garrett

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Rock Lodge Trust (Stuart Bloch)

Telephone #: 304-232-4037

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Garrett County Courthouse

Liber #: 346

Folio #: 198

STREET & NUMBER

Third and Alder Streets

CITY, TOWN

Oakland

STATE

Maryland 21550

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Rock Lodge is located about a quarter of a mile west off Rock Lodge Road, near Cherry Creek Cove of Deep Creek Lake. The property, consisting of the main house, or lodge; a guest house, and a combination caretaker's house and garage, is situated in a secluded woodland setting.

The complex is approached by a long driveway that winds through woods and banks of rhododendrons. Small areas of lawn have been cleared along the drive for benches. The buildings are surrounded by woods and many huge boulders which are apparently a natural feature of this area are scattered about the cleared grounds. Paths and trails cut through the woods.

The lodge, an extensive one story dwelling built of native sandstone, embodies the basic characteristics of the sophisticated "bungalow" or rustic lodge developed during the Arts and Crafts Movement. The long, low profile with deep overhanging eaves is also characteristic of Wright's Prairie School architecture. The central main block of Rock Lodge, the living room wing off the east corner, and the library wing off the west corner, are each covered by a shallow gable roof whose ridge runs southeast-northwest. Two additional sections, an open-air terrace off the northeast side of the living room wing and a master bedroom off the southwest side of the library wing, are covered by shed extensions of those respective wings' roofs.

No one side of the building forms a distinct facade. The house is approached from the northwest, and the main entrance is on the northeast elevation of the livingroom wing. A recessed service entrance appears in the northwest end of the central section. All windows are six over six sash with solid shutters, painted turquoise with quarter-moon cut outs. Windows on the southwest and southeast elevation of the living room wing have segmentally arched window openings as does the combination window and entrance door on the northeast elevation of the living room wing. All other windows have plain one piece stone lintels. The house has plain two-panel doors, also painted turquoise. The house has three exterior stone fireplace chimneys; one on the northwest elevation of the library wing, one on the northwest elevation of the living room wing, and one on the southwest elevation of the master bedroom section.

All roofs are covered with asphalt shingles, and all soffits are made of half logs placed with the curved side down. The walls and foundation are roughly split, uncoursed sandstone. The terrace has a stone floor into which have been incorporated several large flat boulders which rise above the level of the floor. On the southeast side of the terrace is a low stone wall. One of the outstanding features of this house is the view from this wall, which moves through hemlocks and rhododendrons and follows a wooded slope to a small dam on Cherry Creek, approximately 175 yards to the southeast. Rock Lodge Road runs between the house and Cherry Creek but is not visible from this position. The terrace roof is supported by two tapering square columns built of sandstone.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

| 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899        | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input checked="" 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      1919; 1927

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Rock Lodge is significant architecturally and because of its association with F.F. Nicola, producer of Mail Pouch Tobacco.

Built in 1919 for Nicola as a mountain retreat, Rock Lodge emodies the basic characteristics of the sophisticated "bungalow" or rustic lodge developed during the Arts and Crafts Movement. The long, low profile with deep overhanging eaves is also characteristic of Wright's Prairie School architecture. Noteworthy features include the use of native sandstone as a building material, the fine interior craftsmanship, and the beautiful woodland setting. Understandably, it became a showplace soon after its construction. In the late 1920s, Rock Lodge burned- the extent of destruction is unknown. It was rebuilt, presumably identical to the original.

Today it is owned and used as a vacation home by the Bloch family of Wheeling, West Virginia, owners of Bloch Brothers Tobacco, a manufacturer of Mail Pouch Tobacco.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE Donna Ware; Historian/ Ann Burns, Historic Site Surveyor  
Merry Stinson/Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION DATE  
Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines 1981

STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE  
Shaw House, 21 State Circle 301-269-2438

CITY OR TOWN STATE  
Annapolis Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

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Rock Lodge  
(Continued #7 - Description)

The facade door opens onto a large living/dining room. Northwest of the living room is a large kitchen, and northwest of it is a bedroom with bath and hall leading to the door on the northwest elevation. West of the living room and southwest of the kitchen is a hallway leading to the library. Southwest off the hall are three bedrooms with baths. Northwest of the hall and bedrooms is the library, and southwest off the library is the master bedroom with bath.

The living/dining room has a cathedral ceiling. The walls are unfinished stone. The northeast half of the northwest wall is occupied by a segmentally arched inglenook, with open fireplace. Benches on either side of the inglenook are stone cantilevered from the walls. The floor is stone.

The kitchen walls are plaster painted white and has a high ceiling. The floor is black and white tile. The kitchen has several glass-fronted cabinets for china, and has a vintage icebox as well as modern appliances. The hall to the northwest door has several built-in storage cabinets. All other rooms and halls have plastered walls with contrasting window and door surrounds. The library fireplace is on the northwest wall and is faced by built-in bookshelves. The master bedroom is two steps down from the library and its fireplace is on the southeast wall.

West of the main house is a small one-story, gable-roofed guest house. Its facade points northeast and is covered by a shed-roofed porch. The guest house is built of the same materials as the main house. An exterior stone fireplace chimney is placed on the northwest gable end. The interior consists of one large room with an open fireplace; a bath and closet are placed at the southeast end. The fireplace has a stone slab mantel and two stone shelves are cantilevered from either corner of the fireplace.

Off the northeast corner of the guest house is a large iron sculpture of an eagle in flight, mounted on a large flat rock and surrounded by rhododendrons.

Northwest of the main house, about 50 yards away, is a one-story, gable-roofed caretakers' lodge/garage. Built of the same materials as the main house and guest house, its facade points southeast and is covered by a shed-roofed porch. Three garage doors open off the northeast elevation. The interior of the caretakers' lodge is unknown.

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Rock Lodge  
Chain of Title

346/198 From: Thomas F. Bloch and Nancy F. Bloch and Betty Bloch Harris  
12-17-73 To: Stuart F. Bloch and Jessie M. Harris, Trustees of Trust  
Deed Consideration: \$10.00 "as well as other good and valuable  
consideration."

1. A. 8 tracts of land; conveyed to Thomas J. Bloch & et al  
from Jessie M. Bloch: Liber 180 Folio 11, dated 10-12-53  
and by confirmatory deed: Liber 180/ Folio 98 dated 10-23-53
- B. 1.436 acres, conveyed to Thomas F. Bloch et al from Karl  
F. Kahl: Liber 285/ Folio 516, dated 5-8-1968  
All of this was conveyed by Stuart F. Bloch, Trustee to  
Thomas F. Bloch et al: Liber 317/Folio 504, dated 10-20-71
2. "Mayflower" tract, 91½ acres conveyed to Thomas F. Bloch et al  
from the Harco Lumber Co.: Liber 343/Folio 687, dated 10-22-73

Parcel #1 -

317/504 From: Stuart F. Bloch, Trustee  
10-20-71 To: Thomas M. Bloch and Nancy F. Bloch and Betty Bloch Harris  
Deed and Wilmot L. Harris  
Consideration: \$1.00 "and other good and valuable consideration".

To each couple an undivided ½ interest in the properties included  
in Parcel #1

Parcel No. #1A

180/11 From: Jessie M. Bloch, widow  
10-12-53 To: Thomas M. & Nancy F. Bloch & Betty Bloch & Wilmot L. Harris  
Deed Consideration: \$1.00

An undivided one-half interest in the properties of Parcel 1A

153/361 From: Walter W. Dawson and R.C. McComas  
7-30-48 To: Jessie M. Bloch (Will of Jesse Bloch dated 1-12-50)  
Deed Consideration: \$2000.00

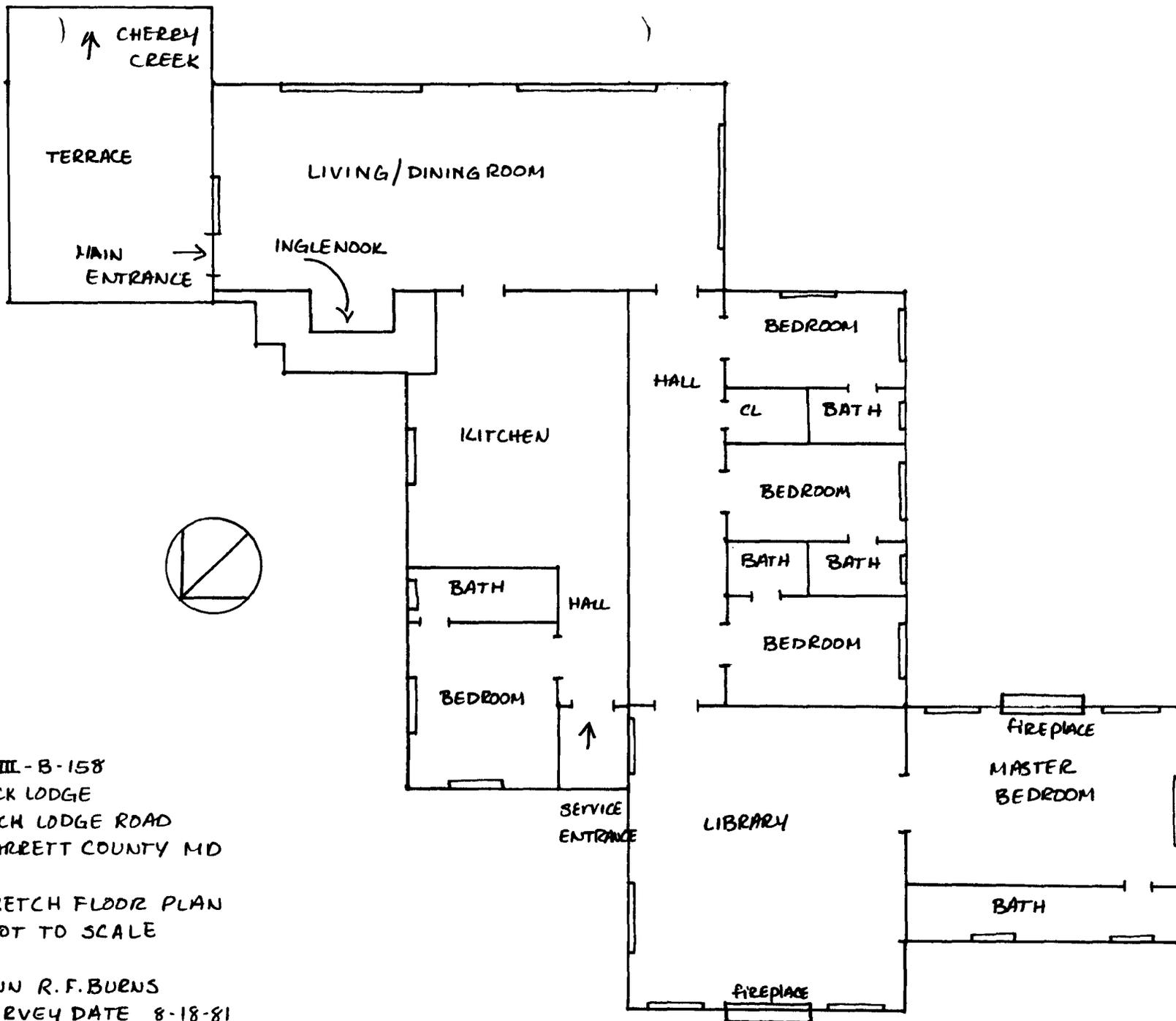
19½ lots in the Monte Vists Corporation, conveyed by two deeds.

99/19 1. From: William A. Fisher & wife  
10-18-28 To: Monte Vista Corporation  
Deed (Plat Record Drawer L, file #4. Plat of Monte Vista Corp.

99/21 2. From: Swepson Earle  
10-18-28 To: Monte Vista Corporation  
Deed

153/215 From: Jesse J. Ashby, Jr. late Treasurer of Garrett Co.

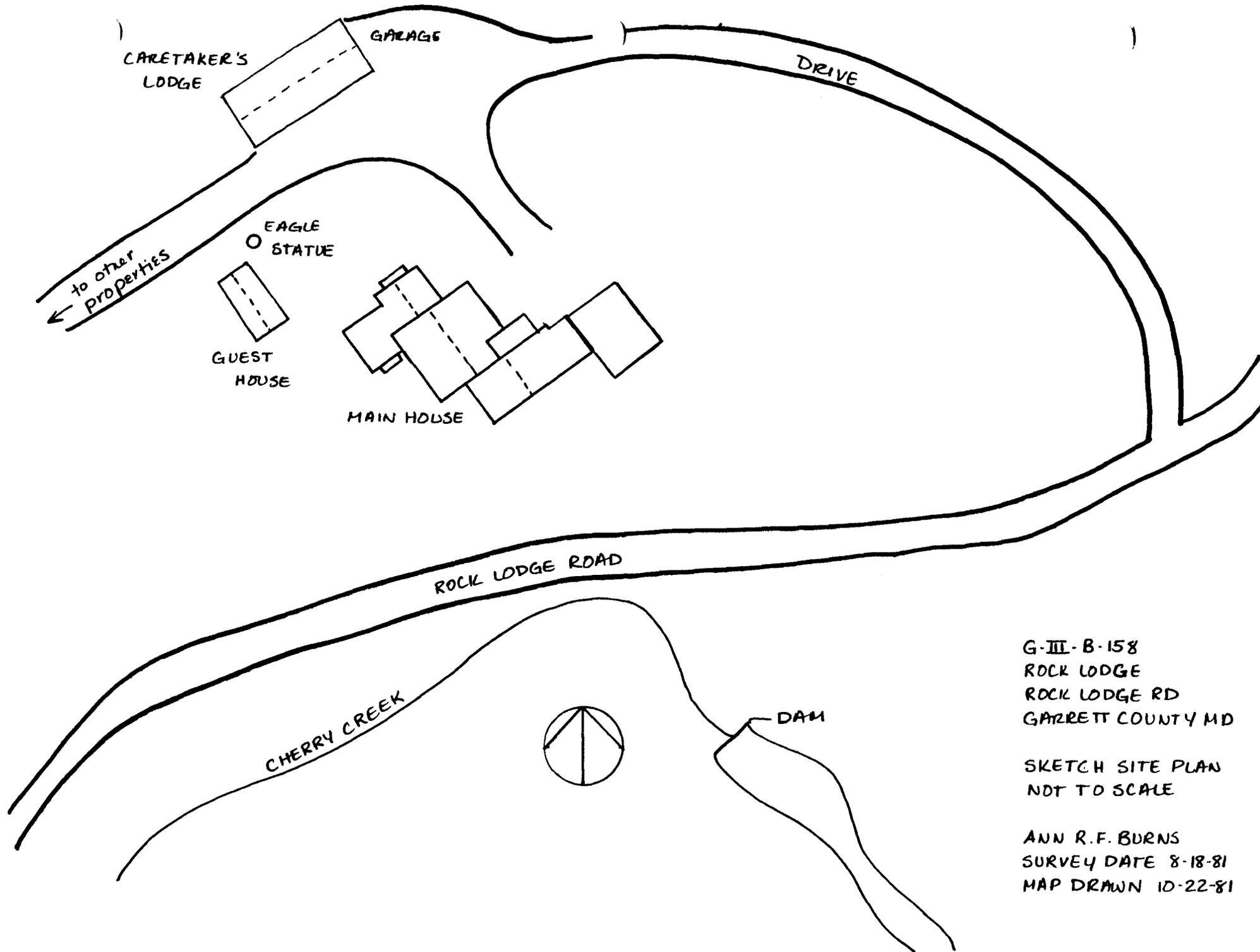




G-III-B-158  
 ROCK LODGE  
 ROCK LODGE ROAD  
 GARRETT COUNTY MD

SKETCH FLOOR PLAN  
 NOT TO SCALE

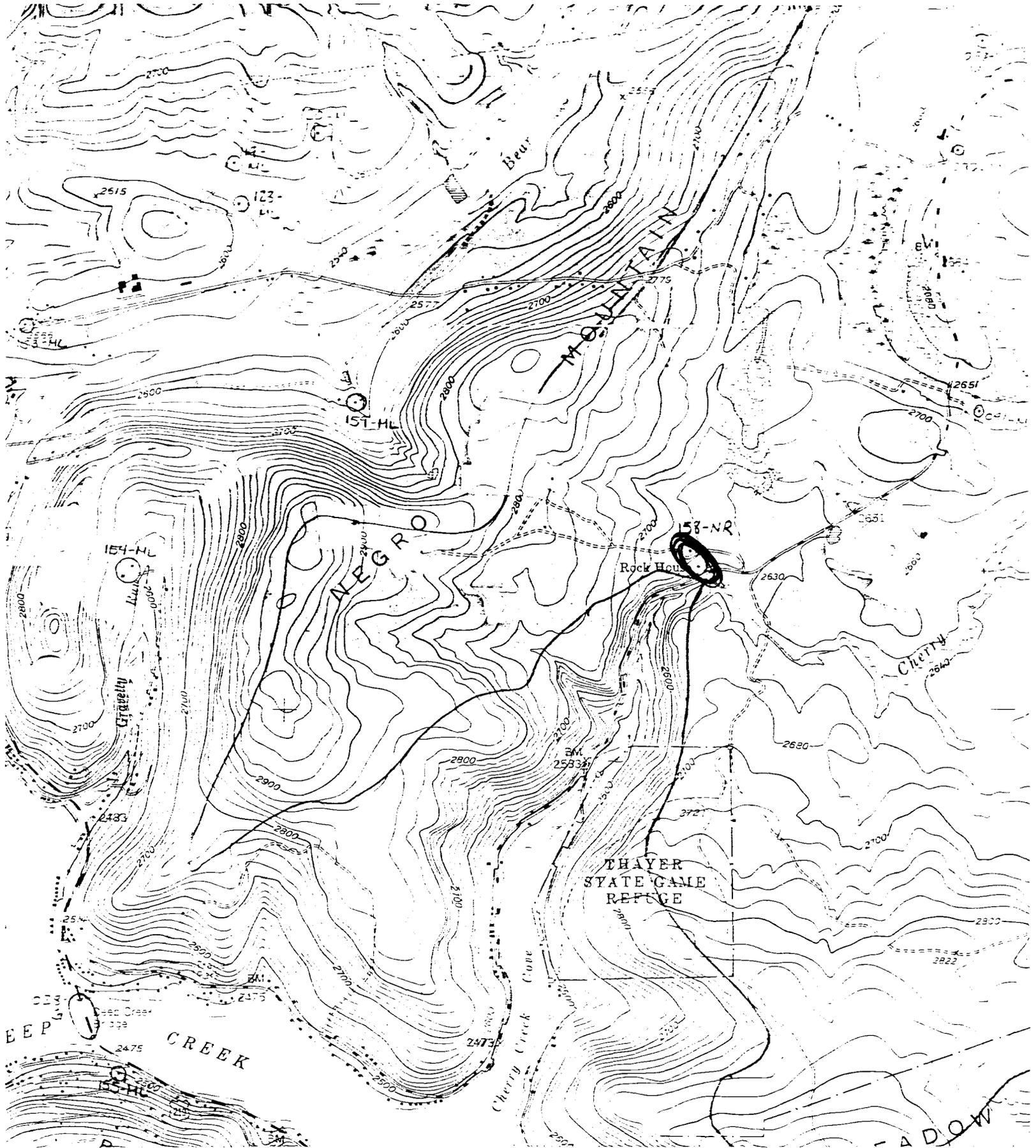
ANN R. F. BUENS  
 SURVEY DATE 8-18-81  
 MAP DRAWN 10-22-81



G-III-B-158  
ROCK LODGE  
ROCK LODGE RD  
GARRETT COUNTY MD

SKETCH SITE PLAN  
NOT TO SCALE

ANN R.F. BURNS  
SURVEY DATE 8-18-81  
MAP DRAWN 10-22-81



McHenry, MD  
 USGS 7.5 Minute Series  
 Scale-1:24,000  
 1947; photorevised 1974

Site #: G-III-B-158  
 Rock Lodge  
 Rock Lodge Rd., North side, approx. 1 mile  
 North of State Park Rd.



G-III-B-158

Rock Lodge

Garrett Co., MD

Merry Stinson 8/18/81

Porch-NE & NW elevs.



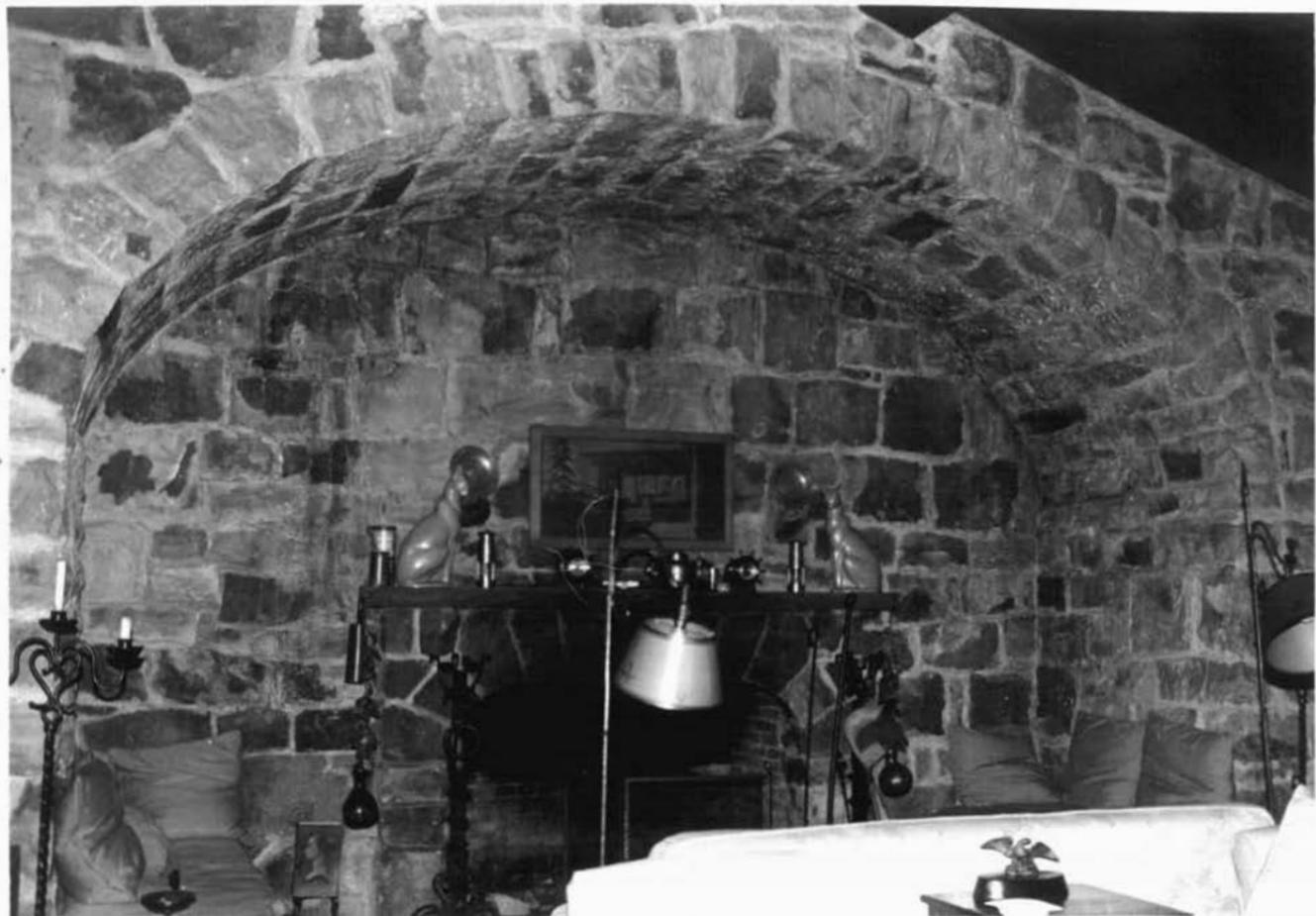
G-III-B-158

Rock Lodge

Garrett Co., MD

Merry Stinson 8/18/81

NW elev.



G-III-B-158

Rock Lodge

Garrett Co., MD

Merry Stinson 8/18/81

Inglenook-livingrm., NW wall



G-III-B-158

Rock Lodge

Garrett Co., MD

Merry Stinson 8/18/81

Caretaker's Ldg.-Fac:SE elev.