Easement

CE -27

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Cecil
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Rose Hill
AND/OR HISTORIC: "Chance" and "Wheeler's Point"

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Grove Neck Road, five miles west of Cecilton
CITY OR TOWN: Earleville
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: First
STATE: Maryland — CODE: 24
COUNTY: Cecil — CODE: 015

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☒ Building	☐ Public	Public Acquisition:	☒ Occupied	Yes:
☐ Site ☐ Structure	☒ Private	☐ In Process	☐ Unoccupied	☐ Restricted
☐ Object	☐ Both	☐ Being Considered	☐ Preservation work in progress	☐ Unrestricted
				☒ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mr. and Mrs. Newbold Smith
STREET AND NUMBER: Rose Hill
CITY OR TOWN: Earleville
STATE: Maryland — CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Cecil County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER: East Main Street
CITY OR TOWN: Elkton
STATE: Maryland — CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey
DATE OF SURVEY: 1967 ☒ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Washington
STATE: District of Columbia — CODE: 11

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Cecil
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

CE 27

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☒ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)		(Check One)			
	☐ Altered	☒ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(if known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Rose Hill stands on the highest knoll of ground in a 400 acre farm on Sassafras Neck, Cecil County, five miles west of Cecilton. The house sits nearly a mile north of the river and commands a view of the undulating ground, the Sassafras River and Kent County beyond.

Seperated from the field by a "ha ha," the house is the product of four major building periods. The first, a gambrel roof frame structure, was built at the end of the 18th or the beginning of the 19th Century in a form very common to rural TideWater Maryland. East thereof, a two and a half story brick "town house" was constructed in 1837. A small frame kitchen and a one story wing were built in the 1960's. East of the house are early outbuildings, including a smoke house, ice house and shed.

The gambrel section of the house is covered with chamfered clapboard and on both facades there is a leanto porch. The latter is recorded in a 19th Century watercolor in the collection of the Maryland Historical Society. The interior of this section consists of two rooms and a central hall on both floors. Its interior trim is more refined than most gambrel-roof dwellings, with double crossette trim around the doors and windows, chair rail with gouge carving, and a semicircular fanlight above the door between the east room and hall. Beneath the window trim are paneled pilasters. Fluted pilasters are built beneath the walnut half-rail along the stair; the balustrade and over half of the trim of the west room is a replacement. The second floor remains undisturbed, with the exception of a bath at the head of the stairs.

From the east room, there is a step up into the 1837 wing. Its floor plan consists of a stair hall and parlor south of a dining room. The ceilings are quite tall, with plaster cornices and acanthus leaf medallions in the center of the ceilings with other decorative devices flanking the fireplaces. Black Egyptian marble mantels in the Empire style are in both first story rooms. Those on the second floor are plain and call to mind the slate mantels used in ante-bellum houses of the area. The window trim, with corner blocks, extends to the baseboard. There are recessed paneled shutters in the windows. Two of the windows, one on each gable, are gyb doors to the exterior. Between the dining room and parlor is a pair of large folding double doors, original to the house. There are, in addition to the second floor rooms, two on the third with plain mantels and lighted by a single dormer each, and an attic lighted by two lunette windows on the gables. At the top of the roof is a deck between the pair of chimneys on the east and the single chimney of the west. The kitchen was formerly in the basement of the 1837 section; it was remodeled to a recreation room in the 1960's, using the wood from the huge cherry tree which was felled by a storm.

When the kitchen was added in the early 1960's, the original portion of the house was copied, but in the late 1960's, no attempt was made to copy the original, a compatible contemporary structure was built for the convenience of the retired owners. The latter was designed by the firm of Victorine Homesey of Wilmington.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- ☐ Pre-Columbian
- ☐ 15th Century
- ☐ 16th Century
- ☐ 17th Century
- ☒ 18th Century
- ☒ 19th Century
- ☐ 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)*

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- ☐ Aboriginal
- ☐ Prehistoric
- ☐ Historic
- ☐ Agriculture
- ☒ Architecture
- ☐ Art
- ☐ Commerce
- ☐ Communications
- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Industry
- ☐ Invention
- ☒ Landscape Architecture
- ☐ Literature
- ☒ Military
- ☐ Music
- ☐ Political
- ☐ Religion/Philosophy
- ☐ Science
- ☐ Sculpture
- ☐ Social/Humanitarian
- ☐ Theater
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Urban Planning
- ☐ Other *(Specify)* _____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The principle area of significance of Rose Hill is that it was the home of General Thomas Marsh Forman (1756 - 1845), who served as a young man in the Revolution, at the battles of Land Island, Monmouth, Trenton and Brandywine, and again as an officer in the War of 1812. He was a member of the Maryland General Assembly for three terms between 1790 and 1800; was commander of the first Brigade, Maryland Militia, and was a president of the Maryland Jockey Club in 1830, being an avid horseman most of his life.

Secondarily, the house is a good historical document on changing tastes and how a rural early 19th Century gentleman farmer lived. His second wife has left us a diary in which she describes the day-to-day life of this Cecil County farm. One of the best of her legacies lies in a depression west of the house - the remains of her garden, with numerous boxwood and holly specimens. In one corner of the garden stand two of the largest yew trees living in the United States.

Rose Hill was bequeathed to General Forman by his grandfather, Thomas Marsh in 1776. His parents lived on the farm, but it is yet undetermined when the General took it over. The tract consists of two parcels called "Chance" and "Wheeler's Point", both 17th Century patents. Upon his death, in 1845, it was devised to his grandson provided he take the name of Thomas Marsh Forman, which he did and subsequently inherited the vast estate which Forman had acquired. Late in the 19th Century, William Ward purchased and lived on the farm. He was a member of the Maryland Legislature as had been the owner of the century before. Rose Hill is important locally as one of the great mansions of the Tidewater region.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CE-27

Cassatt, Alexander J. Interview. Spring, 1972.

Forman, Henry Chandlee. Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland. Easton, 1881.

Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland. Cecil County Land and Probate Records Patent Records. Queen Anne's County Land and Probate Records Rent Rolls.

(see continuation sheet #1)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY						OR	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	39 °	23 '	30 "	75 °	57 '	24 "		°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	39 °	23 '	30 "	75 °	57 '	12 "							
SE	39 °	23 '	17 "	75 °	57 '	11 "							
SW	39 °	23 '	17 "	75 °	57 '	23 "							

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: ~~55 acres~~ 31 acres

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 AND TITLE:
Michael O. Bourne, Coordinator of Field Services

ORGANIZATION
Maryland Historical Trust

DATE
1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Annapolis

STATE
Maryland

CODE
24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name Orlando Ridout, IV

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date February 28, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

GPO 931-894

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

CE-27

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) #1

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Cecil	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

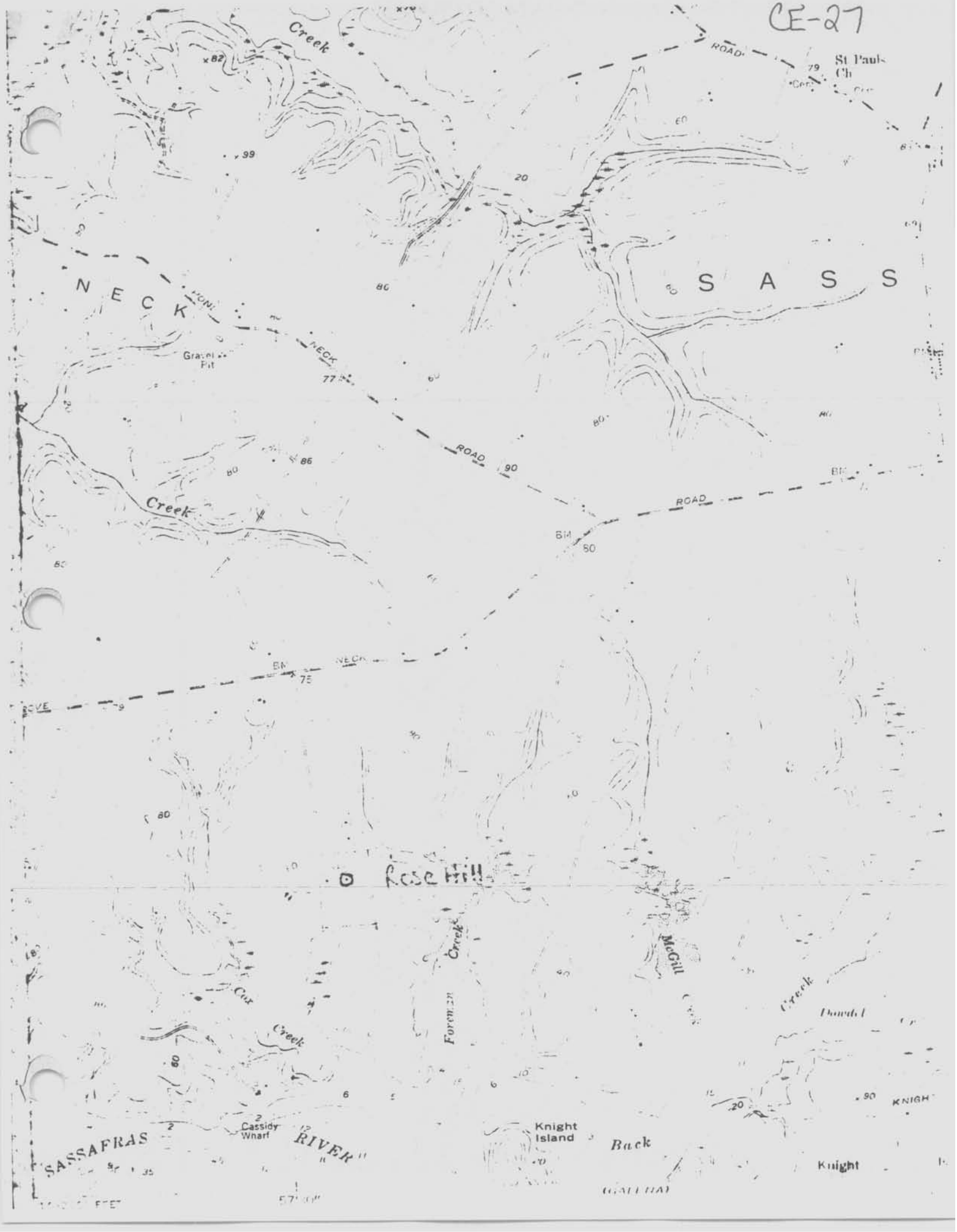
Rose Hill

No. 9. Major Bibliographical References Continued.

Historical Society of Cecil County, Elton, Maryland. Research Files.

Johnson, George. History of Cecil County, Maryland. Elkton, 1881.

GPO 921-724


CE-27
Creek
ROAD
St Pauls Ch
NECK
SASS
Gravel Pit
NECK
ROAD
Creek
ROAD
NECK
Rose Hill
Cox Creek
Foreman Creek
McGill
Creek
Dowdel
Cassidy Wharf
SASSAFRAS RIVER
Knight Island
Back
Knight

⑨ ROSE HILL
NORTH ELEVATION
NR
EARLEVILLE, MD.
PBT 10/78

CE-27

DEV. By
Elizabeth E. Booth
9/22/79

(12)

ROSE HILL

SOUTH ELEVATION

NR

EARLEVILLE, MD.

BBT 10/78

CE-27

DEV. BY

Elizabeth E. Booth

9/22/79

ROSE HILL
NORTH ELEVATION
NR EARLEVILLE, MD
PBT 10/78

CE-27

(10)

PFV. BY
Elizabeth E. Booth
9/24/79

(11) Rose Hill

North Elevation

NR

Earleville, MD.

PBT 10/78

CE-27

DEV. By
Elizabeth E. Booth

9/22/79

#22

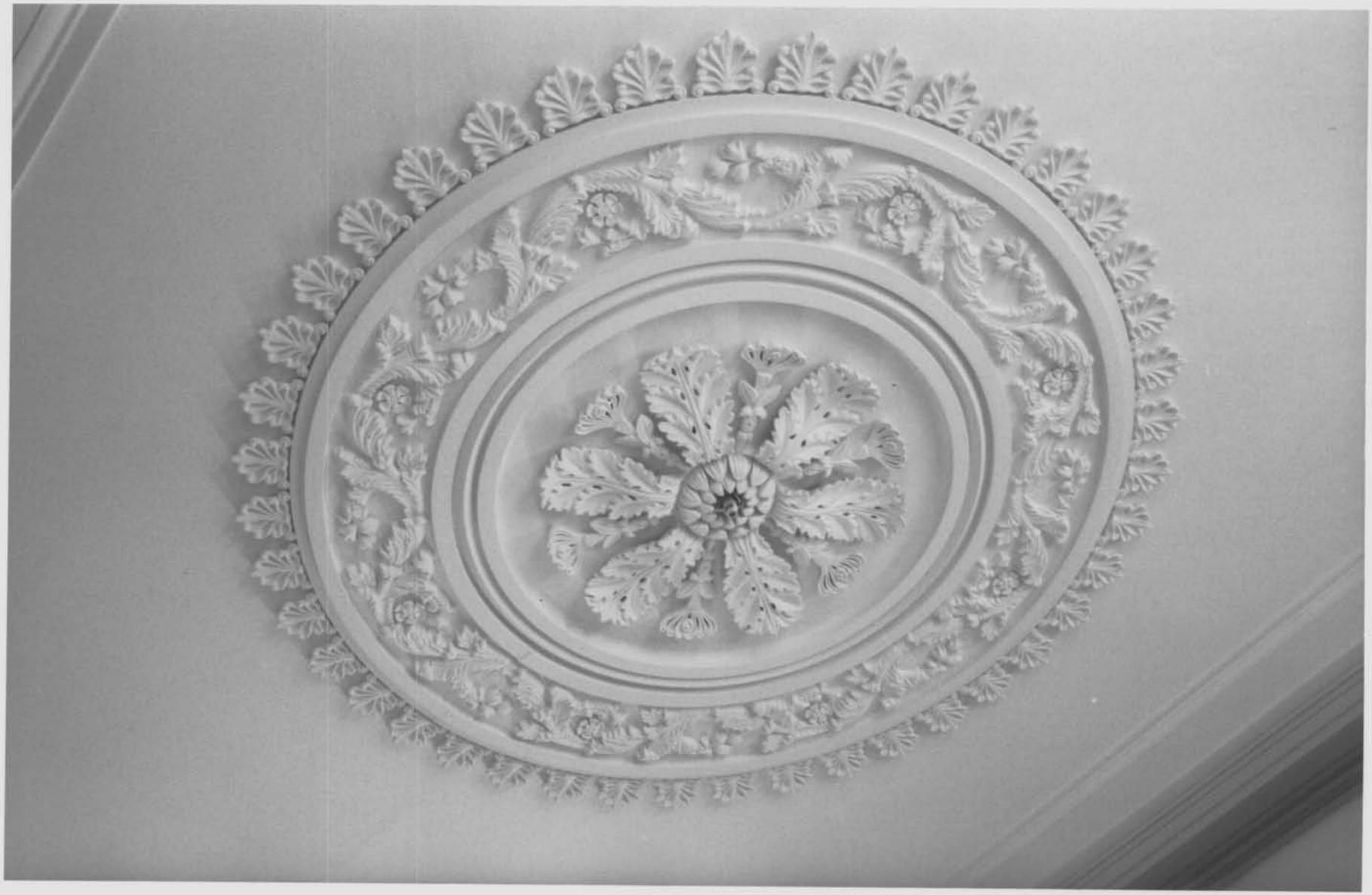
CE-27 Rose Mud PJS 6/75

#21

CE-27 Rose Hill PJB 6/75

#19

CE-27 Rose Hill PJB
6/95



#5

#0

CE-27 Rose Hill parlor mantel PJB 4/95

#8

Rose Hall CE-27 [illegible] wallpaper in hall RJB 4/15

#27

CE-27 Rose Hill dairy PJB 6/95

CE-27 Rose Hill

ROSE HILL CE-27
SOUTH ELEVATION
NEAR EARLEVILLE
MOB/1968
NEG./MD. HIST. TRUST