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CE-170 22

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

Little Venture

AND/OR COMMON

Little Elk Farm (PREFERRED)

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

One mile north of Maryland Route 273 on  
Little Elk Creek Road

CITY, TOWN

Near Rock Church  VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY

Cecil

CODE

015

## 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

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Richard D. Mackie

STREET & NUMBER

R.D. 8

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

21921

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

21921

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# DESCRIPTION

CE-170

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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

The Little Elk Farm is a late 18th century (1775-1800) stone structure located a mile north of Maryland Route 273 on Little Elk Creek Road. The main facade faces southwest with the primary gable running on a northwest/southeast orientation. The farmhouse has a scenic view of meandering Little Elk Creek.

The structure consists of two 18th century stone sections with a late 19th century stone kitchen addition. All sections rest on an uncoursed stone foundation. The slate roof is of medium to steep pitch.

The main block is a 2½-story modified side hall/double parlor plan structure with a smaller 1½-story, 2 bay x 1 bay stone wing on the east gable and that was built at approximately the same time. The late 19th century kitchen addition was attached to the rear (north) and east side of this wing. The wing and kitchen are located on a slightly lower level than the main block due to the slope in the property.

The southwest (front) facade is laid with cut and coursed stone with larger cut quoins. The entrance is the third of five bays from the west. A late 19th century door with multi-pane transom has replaced the earlier door. The door has two horizontal panels below the lock rail and is glazed above. The window openings are symmetrically placed. A 2/2 sash with half-round molding for window surrounds has replaced the earlier sash in every instance. There are two 2/2 sash dormers on the main roof. The eaves on the dormers are extended with short returns. The sides are weatherboarded. The main cornice was replaced when the roof was recovered.

The front porch, that extends across the main block, was added in the late 19th or early 20th century. It has a pediment in the front and is supported by Doric columns. The roof is of standing seamed tin.

The west gable end of the main block is laid within uncoursed fieldstone. There are two windows on the first floor and two double-pane attic windows. The first floor windows have large stone lintels with keystones. A bricked-up datestone opening is located in the peak of the gable. The eaves are extended with returns at the base. The stone chimney pile rises out of the gable but is laid with brick above the roof line. The last detail is a late 19th century porch that extends around to this side from the north wall. It consists of a turned balustrade and turned main supports which held up a sloping standing seam tin roof. There are small cross gables on both sides of the porch (west and north). A smaller spindled balustrade is located between the supports and under the eave.

The north (rear) side of the main block is three bays across with the central bay as an entrance with French doors. There are only two windows on the second floor. Dormers identical to those on the front of the house are also located on the north slope of the roof. The back porch extends across the full length of the north wall.

The east wing has two 2/2 sash windows on each floor of the front facade (southwest). The western window on the second floor is slightly to the west of the one below it. The shutters, as on the rest of the house, are paneled on the first floor and louvered on the second. The east wing has been partially stuccoed.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

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Little Elk Farm  
Cecil County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The east gable end of the main block is mostly covered by the wing addition except for the area above the roof line which has been stuccoed. The east gable end of the wing addition has also been covered with stucco. There is a single 2/2 sash window on each floor of the wing along with a small two-pane attic window. There are paneled shutters on both full size windows.

The three bay by one bay kitchen addition extends across the north wall of the wing and around the corner to the east side. The north slope of the roof is a continuation of the roof of the wing. The addition juts out farther to the east than the wing and is gabled beyond the end of the wing. A tall brick chimney rises out of this gable end. The windows have 2/2 sash with paneled shutters. A 2/2 sash dormer is located on the north slope of the addition roof; it has extended eaves and shingled sides. An entrance to the kitchen is located between the two windows, and there is a cellar entrance below the western bay.

The first floor interior of the main block was partially remodeled in the late 19th century. The main quarter turn stair, however, has remained with its 18th century balustrade. The newel is square with paneled sides and a molded cap. There are two rectangular balusters to each tread and they support a molded handrail. The stringer is decorated with elaborately scrolled trim. The triangular area below the stair is outlined with an ovola banded molding. Plain boards set on a diagonal fill the triangular area. A half-rail, to match the main handrail, extends up the adjacent wall. It is supported by an applied column with a paneled inset. The stair becomes enclosed halfway up with a beaded partition wall. The soffit is also beaded and held in place with T-shaped wrought nails. A fairly simple chairrail remains in the main hall along with a six-panel door with wrought hardware that leads to the basement.

The earlier double parlor plan was modified when the wall between the parlors was removed and the corner fireplaces taken out. Presently there is one long room with a fireplace parallel to the west wall. The mantel is of mid to late 19th century design with fluted pilasters which support a molded architrave. The end blocks project from the plain frieze at either end. The thick mantel shelf is supported by a series of stepped moldings above the frieze. The molded baseboard and fluted window and door surrounds also date from the mid to late 19th century. The door and window surrounds have a bullseye decorated corner block.

The room behind the stair hall has been divided for a cloakroom and downstairs bathroom. The corner fireplace was removed from this room, too.

The second floor retains more of its 18th century detail. Six-panel doors with wrought hardware remain on all the doorways. An interesting enclosed space is found at the head of the stair. It is constructed of beaded boards with T-shaped wrought nails

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

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2

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The chairrail on the second floor is fairly plain with a beaded lower edge and a top piece with a half round profile. The stair is completely enclosed as it rises to the third floor. The third floor was completely remodeled in the 20th century. An access panel in the northwest room leads to a small attic space with wide flooring and lapped rafters.

A full basement is found only under the main block. The basement is divided into two rooms, separated by a stone wall and a heavy board door with a mortise and tenon timber frame. Remnants of whitewash are found throughout the basement.

The contemporary stone wing consists of one room on the first floor with a back stair leading to a hall and bedroom on the second floor. An access panel in the ceiling at the head of the stair leads to the attic space. The interior of the main room on the first floor has been completely paneled with vertical pine boards. The once exposed beams with corner beads were also covered over. The second floor was presumably one large room until it was finished off. Second floor whitewashed floor joists uncovered in the attic attest to the fact that they were once exposed. A solid oak ladder with pinned treads remains in the attic space and was undoubtedly the means by which one entered the attic. The rafters are lapped and pinned and the floorboards fastened with rosehead nails.

**SIGNIFICANCE**

CE-170

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"/> 00-1499	<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 checked="" 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 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 1775-1800 BUILDER/ARCHITECT \_\_\_\_\_

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

**SIGNIFICANCE**  
 Architecturally, Little Elk Farm is an important structure along the Little Elk Creek. It is one of the best examples of a side hall/double parlor plan in this general area. Later alterations reflect changing tastes and the prosperity of its owners. The 18th century woodwork that survives is in excellent condition and typical of the period. The architectural integrity of the structure has been retained, as the 19th century additions were made without hindering the overall appearance of the structure. The 19th century woodwork is also exemplary of its time and in good condition.

HISTORY

The house is located on a tract called "Little Venture", patented to Robert Mackey on October 11, 1769 and willed to his son, David Mackey, in 1771 (Will Book BB 2/348). The area has remained primarily agricultural with various industrial activities located along the creek. In addition to his agricultural pursuits, David Mackey was a Lieutenant Colonel of the 6th Battalion in the Chester County Flying Camp Battalion (Biographies and Histories of Chester County, p.41). The house was later purchased by William Mackey (1787-1845). The property remained in the Mackey name until the late 19th century when Walter and Annie Armstrong bought the farm from L. Marshall Haines, a trustee for a number of Mackey heirs (JAD 6/312). The Armstrongs were a prominent family in the area and may have been the ones to add the Victorian details and kitchen addition. Stockford Farms, owned by the du Ponts, purchased the property from the Armstrongs (SRA 12/433). The house and farm have passed back into the hands of the Mackie family and are presently owned by Richard D. Mackie, delegate to the Maryland General Assembly.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Bay View Quadrangle

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1, 8 4, 2, 2, 6, 8, 0 4, 3, 9, 5, 5, 3, 0

B                              

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C                              

D                              

E                              

F                              

G                              

H                              

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #4.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Paul B. Touart, Historic Sites Surveyor; History compiled by Mrs. Harold Copley

ORGANIZATION

Cecil County Committee, Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

March 21, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse, Room 1

TELEPHONE

(301) 398-7568

CITY OR TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland 21921

**12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL X

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 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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Cecil County  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

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## MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cecil County Wills and Deeds, Cecil County Courthouse, Elkton, Maryland.

Rock Presbyterian Church Records, vicinity of Fair Hill, Maryland.

George Johnston, History of Cecil County, Maryland, Elkton, published 1881  
by the author.

The Mackies (variously spelled) An Allied Family, compiled by Beatrice Mackie  
Doughtie, copyright 1957, Bowen Press, Inc., de Catur, Georgia.

Bibles owned by various members of the Mackie family.

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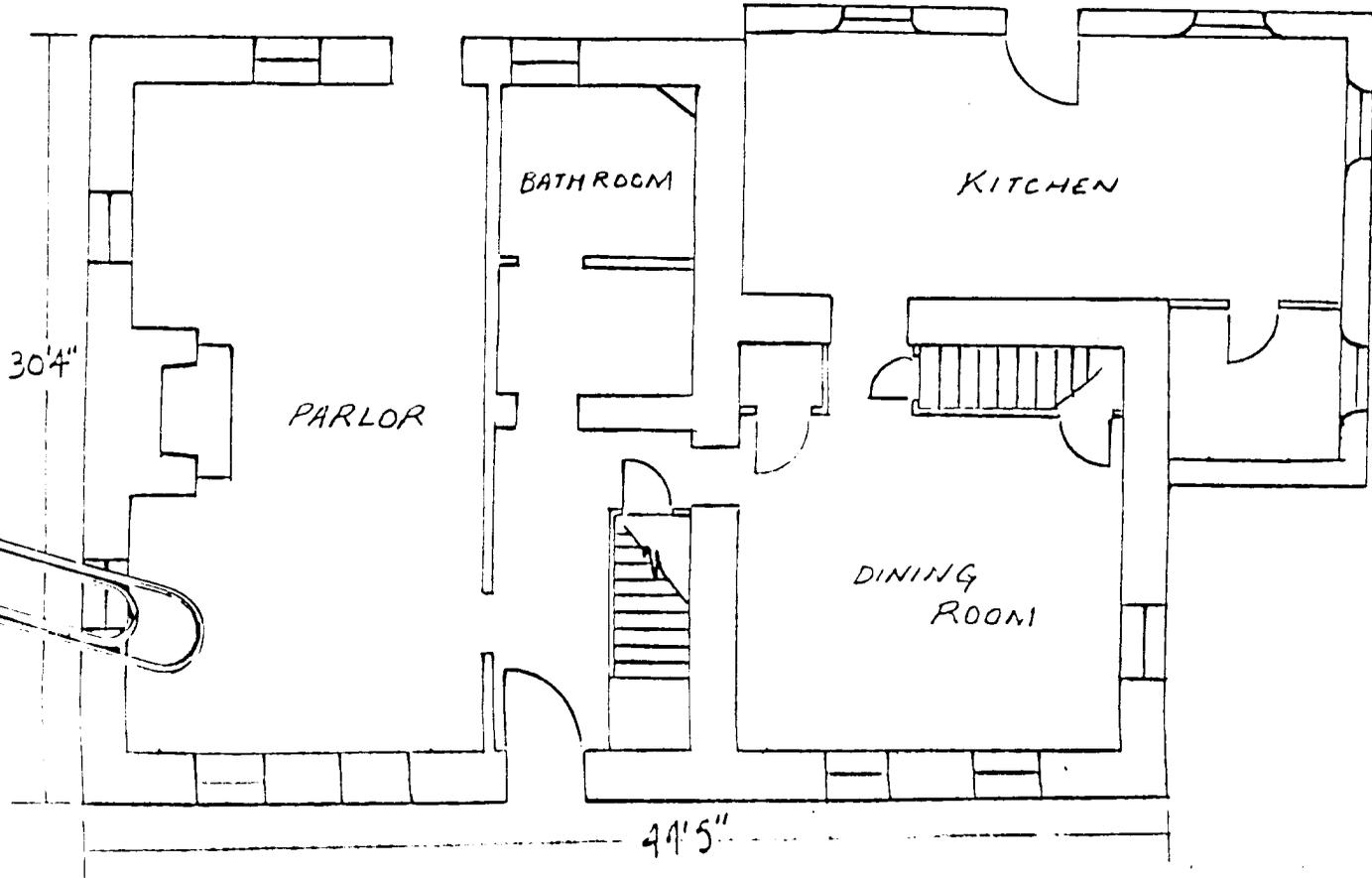
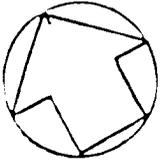
Little Elk Farm  
Cecil County  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET      ITEM NUMBER 10      PAGE 4

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The acreage accompanying the Little Elk Farm nomination is the immediate land around the farmhouse which begins along Little Elk Creek Road about 300' below the house and runs in an easterly direction for approximately 100' to the Little Elk Creek and following the same for approximately 600' in a northerly direction. From thence in a westerly direction to the said road and finally south to the place of beginning, containing approximately two acres.

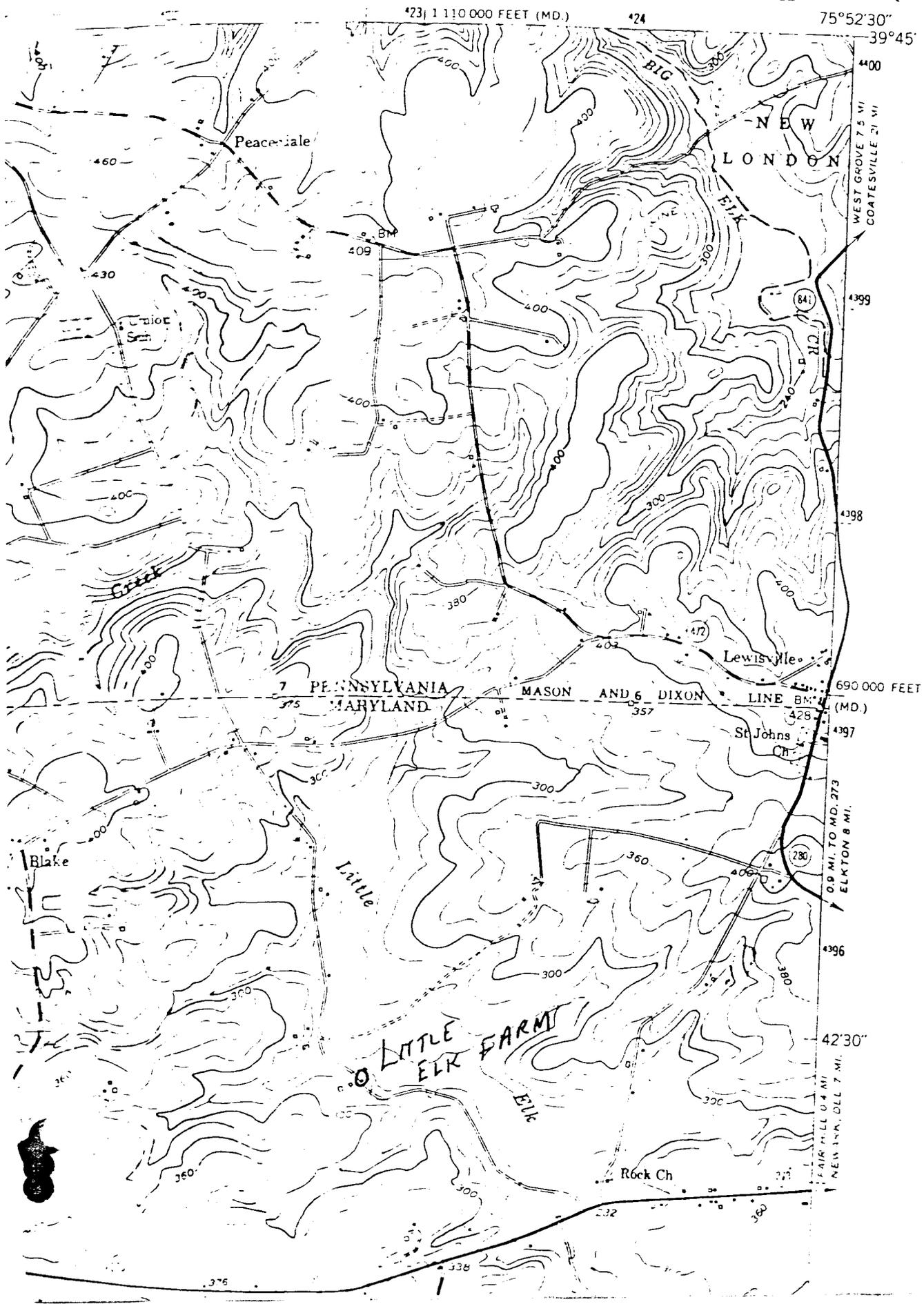
CE-170



BAY VIEW QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND—PENNSYLVANIA  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
NW/4 ELKTON 15' QUADRANGLE

5863 (V. SE  
(WEST GROVE)

CE-170









②

4

CE - 170

Litter Eck

back of house  
from north

3/1/79

Elizabeth E. Booth



~~MEMORANDUM~~

LETTER ELK FORD

CE-170

NR.

PROVIDENCE OR ROCK CHURCH

SOUTH

PST

3/77

4



Little Elk #1  
Little Venture  
Near Fair Hill  
MOB/1968  
NEG - MD. Hist. Trust

CE - 170



Little Elk Farm

CE-170

NR PROVIDENCE MO. OR ROCK CHURCH

SOUTHWEST ELEV.

PBT

3/13/79



LITTLE ELK FARM

CE-170

NR PROVIDENCE, MD. AND ROCK CITHURCH  
SOUTH

PBT

3/79



LITTLE ELK FARM  
NR. PROVIDENCE OR ROCK CHURCH  
SOUTH

CE-170

PBS 3/79



CE - 170

LITTLE ELK FARM

NR PROVIDENCE OR ROCK CHURCH

SOUTH WEST

5/79

PBT



CE-170 LITTLE ELK FARM



CE-170