

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

QA-224

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

1. Name

historic Bachelor's Hope (preferred)

and/or common Phares Morris farm

2. Location

street & number Maryland Route 18 (Old Queenstown Road) n/a not for publication

city, town Centreville vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland code 24 county Queen Anne's code 035

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Thomas Phares Morris

street & number

city, town Centreville n/a vicinity of state Maryland 21617

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Queen Anne's County Courthouse

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Centreville state Maryland 21617

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust
Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date September 1978 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>n/a</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources

Contributing	Noncontributing	Number of previously listed National Register properties included in this nomination: <u>0</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites	
<u>0</u>	<u>5</u> structures	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects	Original and historic functions and uses: agricultural and residential
<u>1</u>	<u>5</u> Total	

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Bachelor's Hope, constructed between 1798 and 1815 and located near Centreville in Queen Anne's County, Maryland, is a five-bay, 1½ story house with brick gable ends and frame sides. It is two rooms deep, with double fireplaces in each gable wall feeding into a single chimney centered on the gable. Both the brick gable ends and the high brick foundation are laid in five-course bond. The principal facade faces south, toward the old Queenstown Road. The entrance is located in the central bay, with unusual two-over-two sidelights flanking the door. The remainder of the facade is symmetrically arranged, with two nine-over-six windows on either side of the door on the first floor and three gable-roofed dormers with six over six sash above. A modern porch spans the three central bays. The rear (north) facade is similar to the front, with a paneled door without sidelights in the center bay flanked by a pair of six-over-six windows on each side. Three gable-roofed, six-over-six dormers are arrayed symmetrically above. The interior is laid out in an unusual variation of the central hall Georgian plan in which all the rooms are of different sizes. Each of the two front rooms is heated by a fireplace centered on the gable wall. The fireplace in the southeast room retains an early 19th century mantel, as well as a fine interior cornice, all original baseboard and chairrail, and raised paneling in the recesses below the south windows. Baseboard and chairrail, as well as paneled window recesses, remain in the southeast room as well. The northwest room is relatively plain, with late 19th century mantel and window trim; the northeast room has been modernized and serves as a kitchen. An enclosed winder stair adjoining the hall to the rear gives access to the second floor, which retains virtually all the original trim including window and door architraves, fireplace surrounds, and raised panel doors. Also on the property are five twentieth century outbuildings which do not contribute to the significance of the resource.

For General Description, see Continuation Sheet No. 1

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Continuation sheet Bachelor's Hope
Queen Anne's County, MD Item number 7 Page 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Bachelor's Hope is a five-bay story-and-a-half house with brick gable ends and frame sides constructed on a high brick foundation. It is two rooms deep, with double fireplaces in each gable wall feeding into a single chimney centered on the gable. The east chimney is flush, but both chimneys on the west gable project about nine inches from the wall up to the first floor eave line, then corbel back to become flush with the wall. The combination of two-room depth and story-and-a-half height gives the house a most unusual mass, quite pleasing to the eye.

Both the foundation and the brick gable ends are laid in five-course bond. The weatherboards on the front and rear facades are not original, but consist of beveled german siding. This does not extend all the way to the corner at each end, but leaves about nine inches of brick exposed, with a double-beaded corner board used to cover the seam between siding and brick.

The principal facade faces south, toward the old Queenstown Road. The door is located in the center bay, with unusual two-over-two sidelights flanking the door. The remainder of the facade is symmetrically arranged, with two nine-over-six windows on either side of the door on the first floor and three gable-roofed dormers with six-over-six sash on the second floor. A modern porch now covers the central three bays on this facade.

On the west gable, there is a nine-over-six window to the left of the north chimney and to the right of the south chimney on the first floor and one four-over-four window in the center of the gable on the second floor.

The rear or north facade is similar to the front, with a paneled door without sidelights in the center bay flanked by a pair of six-over-six windows on each side. Three gable-roofed, six-over-six dormers are symmetrically placed on the second floor.

On the east gable, there is a nine-over-six window to the left of the chimney and an original door to the right on the first floor and a four-over-four window to the right of the chimney on the second floor. A bulkhead entrance below the first floor windows provides the only access to the cellar. A modern porch covers the northern two-thirds of this gable.

Part of the cornice is early, if not original, but a number of alterations have been made. On the south facade, only the boxed soffit remains. The crown mold and bed mold have been replaced with a piece of double beveled threshold, set in the proper location at an angle. On the north facade, the early bed mold remains, but the crown mold is modern. The cornice returns on the west gable and is carried up the gable eaves, a treatment characteristic of the mid-nineteenth century. The east gable eave is finished with rakeboards. These are modern replacements and are not beaded or tapered.

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date enteredContinuation sheet Bachelor's Hope
Queen Anne's County, MD Item number 7 Page 2GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The interior is laid out in an unusual variation of the central hall Georgian plan in which all the rooms are a different size. The front rooms are larger than the rear rooms, and the hall is unusually narrow, with an enclosed winder stair adjoining the hall at the rear. The longitudinal partition walls are also offset, so that the front room to the west of the hall is slightly larger than the front room to the east. The stair is on the west side of the hall, making the rear west room considerably smaller than its counterpart to the east.

The original plan has been altered somewhat. The wall between the east front room and the hall has been removed, and the hall partitioned off, leaving just two rooms in the front half of the house with two smaller rooms separated by a short hall in the rear.

The front rooms are each heated by a fireplace on the center of the gable wall. The fireplace in the southwest room retains an early mantel dating to the early nineteenth century.

Other decorative features remaining in this room include a very fine interior cornice, consisting of a crown mold applied against a beaded fascia board, all of the original chairrail and baseboard, and raised paneling in the recesses below the south windows.

In the southeast room, the mantel is gone, and only the fascia board of the cornice remains, with a modern crown mold applied to it. The baseboard and chairrail remain, however, and the south windows have raised panel recesses. Seams in the cornice, chairrail, and baseboard show where the original hall partition was removed. The front door and sidelights are highlighted with greek architraves.

The northwest room is relatively plain, with a late nineteenth century mantel and window trim. There is evidence of an original door in the south wall, allowing access to the southwest room. A curious feature found both in the northwest room and the hall is the use of horizontal beaded paneling as wainscoting.

The northeast room has been modernized and now serves as a kitchen. The original corner chimney remains, but has been covered with modern paneling.

On the second floor, the stair rises to a small hall running along the north wall of the house, providing access to large sleeping chambers at the east and west end of the house, and a small unheated chamber adjacent to the hall on the south side of the house. A modern bathroom has been added by partitioning off the north side of the hall.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

Virtually all of the original trim remains on the second floor. The door surrounds consist of a beaded fascia board with an ovolo molding with fillets. The dormer windows are plain, while the gable windows employ the same surround as the doors. The small fireplaces in the east and west rooms have simple board surrounds with the inner edge beaded and the outer edge embellished with an ovolo molding. Raised panel doors with ovolo moldings remain on the three original door openings. The partition between the stair hall and the unheated chamber is constructed of vertical beaded boards plastered on the inner face. All other partitions are stud and plaster.

The roof is of common rafter construction with a pitch of forty-three degrees. The rafters are pit sawn and average 3 x 3½ inches, set on 19 to 20-inch centers. They are secured at the ridge with a pegged mortise and tenon joint.

The collar beams are half-dovetailed and pegged into the rafters and also serve as ceiling joists for the second floor. The dormer framing appears to be original, and the original second floor partition walls protrude up through the ceiling and are nailed to the collar beams. The ceiling plaster lathing is split, not sawn.

The cellar consists of a three-room plan, with one room extending the full depth of the house at the east end, and the west end divided longitudinally into two rectangular rooms. All interior partitions are of brick, but the wall between the two west rooms has been partially removed, allowing a more open plan.

There is a blocked-up fireplace in the east room, below the southeast fireplace on the first floor. This does not appear to have been large enough for cooking. The remaining three bases have relieving arches, but no flues. A crude stairway remains in the northwest room. The opening is not original, but was cut in at a later date and has subsequently been closed up again.

8. Significance

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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 checked="" 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	1798-1815	Builder/Architect	unknown
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criterion: C
 Exceptions: not applicable
 Level of Significance: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

Bachelor's Hope is significant for its architecture, combining several unusual features in what is probably a unique house form on the central Eastern Shore of Maryland. The house is constructed with brick gable ends and frame sides; few examples of this technology survive. The double pile floor plan is rarely seen in a 1½ story dwelling; in addition the house exhibits a highly unusual variation of the central hall plan, in which all the rooms are of different sizes. The combination of all these unusual architectural features makes Bachelor's Hope a highly significant structure. Although some alterations have been made to the first floor, the original plan is still clearly delineated, and much of the early fabric remains intact. Of particular note are a handsome Federal mantel, original interior cornice, and paneled window recesses. Also surviving is the original horizontal beaded wainscoting in the northwest room and the rear hall on the first floor, and all of the original woodwork on the second floor, including doors and mantels.

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Continuation sheet Bachelor's Hope Item number 8 Page 4
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HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Bachelor's Hope combines several unusual architectural features in what is probably a unique house form on the central Eastern Shore. Brick gable ends with frame sides and a double pile plan in a story-and-a-half house are rare survivals. In addition, the house exhibits an unusual variation of the central hall floor plan. It is the presence of these three features in combination that make Bachelor's Hope such an important structure.

Although some alterations have been made to the first floor of the house, the original plan is still clearly delineated, and much of the early fabric remains intact. Of particular note are a handsome Federal mantel, original interior cornice, and paneled window recesses. Also surviving is the original horizontal beaded wainscoting in the northwest room and the rear hall and all of the original woodwork on the second floor, including doors and mantels.

In 1676 Thomas Haillings of Talbot County was granted a patent for 150 acres. Recorded in 1683, the patent was for a tract of land called "Batchellors Hope", lying on the south side of the Chester River, at the head of Fishing Creek.¹

Little is known of this first owner, but it seems probable that this was the Thomas Haylings noted in a patent certificate dated 1658, in which Emilia Johnson laid claim to land rights for transporting herself and three servants in 1651 and three more people in 1656. Among the latter group was Thomas Haylings. The patent does not specify if the latter three were also servants, but if someone else transported them, it can be assumed they were.²

Evidently Haillings did not even live long enough to receive the official document recording his patent, as his will was probated in May 1679, three years after the grant was made, but four years before it was recorded in the patent book. In his will Thomas Haylings, Carpenter, left

...unto Richard Chase... one hundred acres of land called the Bachelor's Hope, lying on the south side of Chester River at the head of Fishing Creek...³

To his friend John Chase, he left his tools and chest. The will of Richard Chase was probated in December 1699. He listed his profession as carpenter, and specified that his "plantation" should go to his cousin, Mary Becett "after Richard Morris has been ten years on it from this my will making."

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

In 1717, Mary Becket of Philadelphia, "Spinster", sold a tract of 150 acres on Fishing Creek, known as Batchelor's Hope, to Thomas Parsons of Queen Anne's County, whose profession is noted as "planter". The price was 4,000 pounds of tobacco.⁵

Beginning with Parsons' ownership, the distribution of Bachelor's Hope becomes somewhat complicated. In 1720 Parsons sold 60 acres of Bachelor's Hope to John Brown for 4,000 pounds of tobacco.⁶ In 1723, he patented 100 acres of a tract called "Neglect" directly adjoining Bachelor's Hope,⁷ and in 1735 he sold 49 acres of Neglect to John Brown for 4,900 pounds of tobacco.⁸

Thomas parsons died in late 1745 or early 1746 and left to his grandson, John Taylor

...all that tract or parcel of Land that I now hold and Dwell on named Batcholders hope and also a part of a tract of land called neglect, containing one hundred acres more or less...⁹

John Taylor was a minor at the time of his grandfather's death, and the Orphans Court of Queen Anne's County ordered that a valuation of the property be made and an annual rent established which Taylor's guardian, Thomas Dodd, was to pay for the use of the land. The valuation was returned to the Court in April 1747, and included the following description of the buildings and lands:

...(We) do find thereon one framed dwelling house 24 feet long and 18 feet wide with a brick chimney, an earthen floor below and no floor above, one old dwelling house 28 feet long and 18 feet wide very much out of repair one milk house 12 feet square the weather boards very much decayed, one new logged corn house 12 feet long and 6 feet wide, one old tobacco house 40 feet long and 22 feet wide--the weatherboards want repairing and a new cover, 100 bearing apple trees, a small peach orchard and some cherry trees about 90 acres of land enclosed within a middling fence and other fencing necessary. We value the whole at 400 pounds of tobacco per year exclusive of the widow's third and the quit rents due to his Lordship, and further that the said guardian is permitted to get timber upon any part of the land for the necessary repairing of the houses and fencing upon the premises, and also to clear one acre of land per year in a regular manner adjoining to the premises.¹⁰

After reaching his majority, John Taylor took full possession of the land, and in 1773 entered into a mortgage agreement with Richard and William Tilghman for "all such part of...Bachelors Hope and part of Neglect which he claimeth by viture of the last Will of a certain Thomas Parsons...containing by estimation 150 acres..."¹¹

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Despite the mortgage, John Taylor was apparently able to retain possession of the property for in 1783 the Federal tax assessment listed the following owners for Bachelors Hope and Neglect:¹²

Nathaniel Taylor: Neglect and Hope, 94 acres.

Sarah Taylor: Neglect and Hope, 47 acres.

Nathaniel Browne: Bachelors Hope. 60 acres.
Neglect, 49½ acres.

Nathaniel Taylor is the son of John Taylor, as attested by a deed executed in 1785.¹³ Sarah Taylor is never identified, but presumably was either John Taylor's wife or his daughter. Nathaniel Browne is clearly a descendant and heir of the John Browne that purchased land from Thomas Parsons in 1720 and 1735.

In 1785 Nathaniel Taylor sold most if not all of his part of Bachelor's Hope to Nathan Browne.¹⁴ The acreages continue to vary, with no clear explanation of whether smaller parcels have been sold off or the actual acreage is simply not known. This deed notes both Nathaniel Taylor's relationship to John Taylor, and the mortgage to the Tilghmans:

Nathaniel Taylor, eldest son of John Taylor, deceased, to Nathan Browne... for 264 pounds seven shillings and six pence...all that part of a tract of land called Batchelor's Hope...which he the said Nathaniel claims as heir to his father John Taylor aforesaid and which was mortgaged by the said John Taylor to Richard Tilghman and William Tilghman, Jr. by deed dated on or about August 26, 1773, containing 70½ acres of land by the same more or less, and being part of the said Tract of Land on which the said Nathan Browne now dwelleth...¹⁵

Nathan Browne died soon after this purchase, and in his will named his wife, Mary, and his son, John Browne, as executors.¹⁶ The will does not enumerate how his real estate was to be divided, but in 1798 the Federal Direct Tax listed John Brown as owning Bachelor's Hope and Neglect.¹⁷ The following description of buildings is included in the list:

- 1 dwelling house 34 x 16, 3 windows 44 x 28, 4 windows 34 x 28, 2 windows 24 x 28; Small addition 14 x 16, 2 windows 44 x 28, 1 window 44 x 20;
- 1 kitchen 18 x 20.

In 1807 John Browne purchased fifty acres of Neglect for \$300. The deed specifies that this parcel of land is part of the same tract known as Neglect already owned by

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Continuation sheet Bachelor's Hope
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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Brown.¹⁸ This must be the 50 acres that Thomas Parsons left to John Taylor and which was not included when Nathaniel Taylor sold Bachelor's Hope to Nathaniel Browne in 1785. Thus John Browne had finally gained possession of all of Neglect and the majority of Bachelor's Hope.

John Browne died in 1815, and left his estate to his children, to be held as joint tenants. There are seven children listed, four daughters and three sons.¹⁹ In 1819 the Orphans Court ordered that a valuation be made of the lands of Nathan, Thomas C., a John F. Browne, minors, the heirs of John Browne. The valuation includes the following description of "the home farm", clearly referring to Bachelor's Hope:

No.2. A Farm in the Tenure of Arthur Carter, generally known as the home farm. There is on said Farm a dwelling house 40 by 30 feet single story, brick ends, weather boarding front and back, in good (repair) also a framed kitchen, meat house, carriage house, a barn 36 by 20 feet shedded on the sides, all in good order, there is also a sawed log corn house and stable somewhat out of order, an old corn house and stable under one common roof, wanting considerable repair and one other stable and Hen house, the former in a State of ruin the other in tolerable repair. Two old apple orchards, containing together about 110 trees, a young apple orchard of 60 trees and peach orchard old of about 70 trees, garden of 7/8 of an acre under worm fence, a few Quince and plum trees, the said farm containing about 235 acres from 30 to 40 of which are in wood, and which we estimate at the annual value of 250 dollars.²⁰

The main dwelling house described in this valuation is obviously the house which stands today. Although the actual dimensions are 40 feet by 27 feet, the brick gable ends and frame sides provide clear confirmation. As this house was not described on the 1798 Federal Direct Tax, it must have been built by John Browne between 1798 and his death in 1815.

Numerous references may be found to a John Browne in Frederick Emory's history of the county, and although it is difficult to ascertain which generation they refer to, it is possible to say with certainty that this John Browne served as

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Clerk of the Circuit Court from 1811 until his death.²¹ It can therefore be assumed that this was the same John Browne who was appointed a trustee to the county almshouse in 1801 and served as secretary and treasurer for the almshouse at least from 1802 until 1805.²² In 1803 he was a member of the Queen Anne's County Democratic Committee,²³ and in 1814 served as secretary.²⁴

In 1824, a tax assessment lists the following entry for Bachelor's Hope:²⁵

Browne, John of Nathan, Heirs	
Batchellors Hope	136½ acres
Neglect	43½ acres
Neglect	50 acres

Although no deed or instrument can be found to establish how the estate was eventually divided, Bachelors Hope descended to Dr. Nathan Browne, for in 1880 the property is deeded by William M. Busey. "Trustee for the estate of Dr. Nathan Browne, late of Carroll County", to James E. Bailey. The property is said to contain 240 acres, less a six-acre parcel previously sold and a family burial plot containing about one-half acre.²⁶

The property was sold to Bailey in 1877, and in 1879 Bailey sold the land to David Barton before his own deed had been officially recorded.²⁷ In 1887, Barton sold Bachelor's Hope to Emma Davis.²⁸ In 1895 the property was involved in a chancery case, which includes a newspaper clipping with the following description:

...Improvements consist of a comfortable and commodious dwelling house which has undergone full repairs during the past year, a large new stable, a good substantial granary and other outbuildings...²⁹

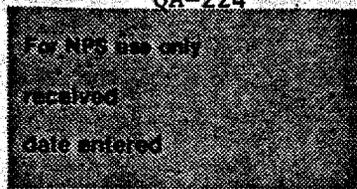
The sale was not completed until 1900, when Emma Davis deeded the land to the administrators of the estate of William McKenney.³⁰ They in turn sold it to Susan B. Mitchell in 1916.³¹ A deed could not be found between Susan Mitchell and Maggie Morris, but in 1932 Morris sold the property to Thomas C. Horsey, and the deed specifies that this is the same parcel sold to Susan Mitchell in 1916 by the administrators of William McKenney.³² In 1937 the Trustees for Thomas C. Horsey sold Bachelor's Hope to Phares Morris,³³ and in 1970 Morris' widow, Annie Marie Morris, deeded the property to Thomas Phares Morris, the present owner.³⁴

For Footnotes to History and Support See Continuation Sheet No. 9

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Footnotes:

¹Patents Liber CB#3, folio 250. Hall of Records. See also Rent Rolls. Vol. 12-A, No. 3, folio 54. (1676)

²Patents Liber Q, folio 19. April 13, 1658. Hall of Records.

³Talbot County Wills, Box 11, folder 4. Probated May 31, 1679. Executed February 24, 1978. Last will and testament of Thomas Haylings.

⁴Talbot County Wills. Liber EM#1, folio 168. Probated December 17, 1699. Executed April 10 (or 16), 1699. Last will and testament of Richard Chase.

⁵Queen Anne's County Deeds, Liber IK#A, folio 165. November 17, 1717.

⁶Deeds, Liber IK#B, folio 34. November 24, 1720.

⁷Patents, Liber PL#5, folio 435. Executed July 2, 1721. Recorded July 1, 1723 Hall of Records.

⁸Deeds, Liber RT#A, folio 430. November 6, 1735.

⁹Wills, Liber JE#A, folio 249. Probated January 24, 1746. Executed February 17, 1741. Last will and testament of Thomas Parsons.

¹⁰Deeds, Liber RT#C, folio 233. April 13, 1747. Valuation of the lands of John Taylor, minor.

¹¹Deeds RT#K, folio 186. August 28, 1773.

¹²1783 Tax Assessment, Corsica District of Queen Anne's County. Hall of Records.

¹³Deeds, Liber CD#1, folio 288. June 18, 1785.

¹⁴Ibid. We can assume this is Nathaniel Browne, listed on the 1783 tax assessment. As the properties are combined in later tax lists it is clear they are directly related if not the same man.

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Footnotes (continued)

¹⁵Ibid.

¹⁶Wills, Liber SC#7, folio 71. Probated May 12, 1787. Executed February 26, 1787. Last will and testament of Nathan Browne.

¹⁷1798 Federal Direct Tax: Worrell Hundred. Hall of Records.

¹⁸Deeds, Liber STW#9, folio 3. March 17, 1807.

¹⁹Wills, Liber TCE#1, folio 21. Probated December 23, 1815. Executed December 12, 1815. Last will and testament of John Browne, son of Nathan Browne.

²⁰Guardian Bonds and Valuations, Liber WHN#4, folio 137. September 14, 1819.

²¹Emory, p. 132.

²²Ibid, p. 260-261.

²³Ibid, p. 366

²⁴Ibid, p. 439

²⁵1824 Tax Assessment, Queen Anne's County. Hall of Records.

²⁶Deeds, Liber JW#11, folio 356. November 15, 1879. In the deed, it is noted that the land was sold to Bailey on June 21, 1877, but the deed was not drawn up until November 1879, and was not recorded until November 1880.

²⁷Deeds, Liber JW 10, folio 124. October 20, 1879.

²⁸Deeds, Liber SCD#9, folio 385. January 15, 1887.

²⁹See Chancery Case #1277. Queen Anne's County Courthouse.

³⁰Deeds, Liber JE6#1, folio 448. July 11, 1900.

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Footnotes (continued)

- 31 Deeds, Liber WFW#9, folio 396. October 19, 1916.
- 32 Deeds, Liber BHT#14, folio 421. June 2, 1932.
- 33 Deeds, Liber WHC#4A, folio 482. March 23, 1937.
- 34 Deeds, Liber CWC#46, folio 453. March 6, 1970.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Boundaries are depicted on the attached site plan, drawn to the scale of 1" = 40'.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The nominated property, 1.27 acres, encompasses the house within its immediate landscaped setting. Boundaries are defined by a fence line surrounding the landscaped yard and kitchen garden, separating this property from broad expanses of cultivated agricultural land which surround it on all four sides.

9. Major Bibliographical References

QA-224

See Footnotes on Continuation Sheets Nos. 9, 10 and 11.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.27 acres

Quadrangle name Centreville, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	8	4	0	4	3	6	0	4	3	2	0	8	8	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 11

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	n/a	code	county	code
-------	-----	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Orlando Ridout, V, Historic Sites Survey Coordinator

organization Maryland Historical Trust date September 1978, revised 12/83

street & number 21 State Circle telephone (301) 269-2438

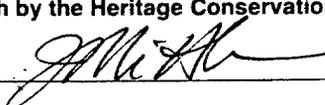
city or town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature  date 3-20-84

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only

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

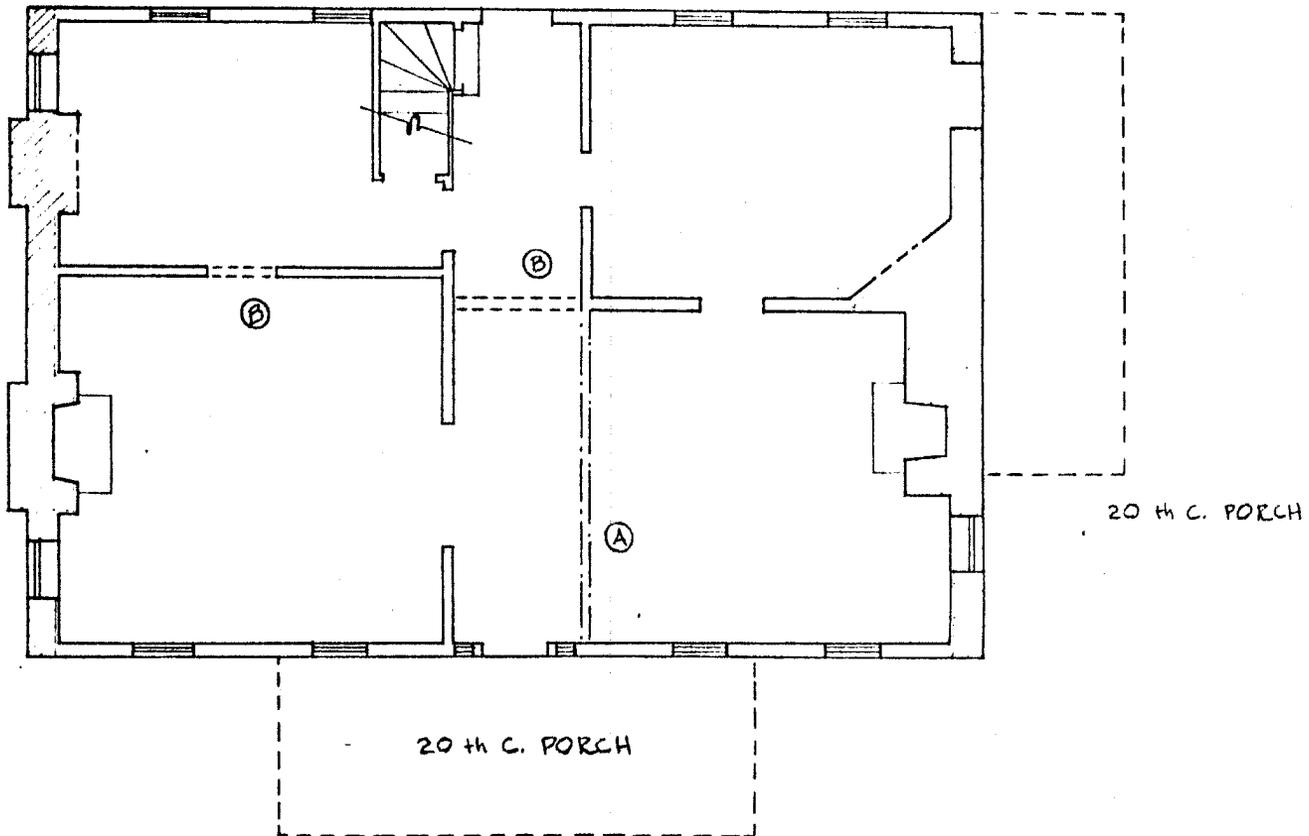
date

Keeper of the National Register

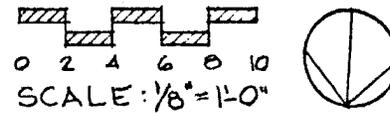
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



- Ⓐ LOCATION OF ORIGINAL PARTITION WALL
- Ⓑ 20th C. ALTERATIONS



ORLANDO RIDOUT V

QA-224

BACHELOR'S HOPE
CENTREVILLE, MARYLAND

APRIL 7, 1978.

QA-224

PASTURE

308'-0"

GARDEN

150'-0"

PLOWED FIELD


 0 10 20 30 40
 SCALE: 1" = 40'



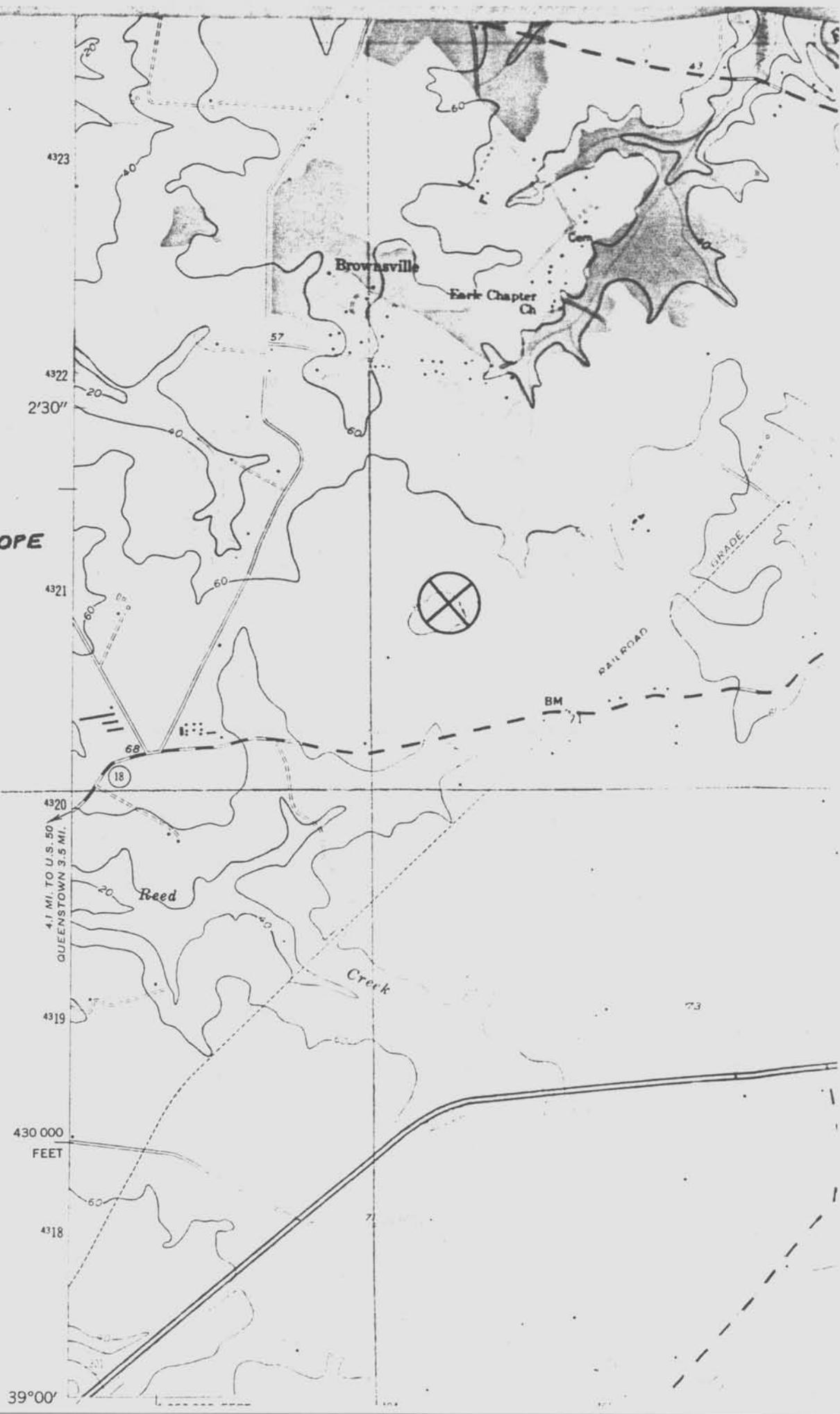
QA-224

BACHELOR'S HOPE
CENTREFIELD, MARYLAND

APRIL 7, 1933

GA-224
BACHELOR'S HOPE
QUEEN ANNE'S
COUNTY, MD.

18-404360-
4320880



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Bachelor's Hope

AND/OR COMMON

Phares Morris farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

North side of Maryland Route 18, 2 miles west of Centreville

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

 VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Thomas Phares Morris

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

 VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21617

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

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

QA-224

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

Bachelor's Hope is a five-bay story-and-a-half house with brick gable ends and frame sides constructed on a high brick foundation. It is two rooms deep, with double fireplaces in each gable wall feeding into a single chimney centered on the gable. The east chimney is flush, but both chimneys on the west gable project about nine inches from the wall up to the first floor eave line, then corbel back to become flush with the wall. The combination of two-room depth and story-and-a-half height gives the house a most unusual mass, quite pleasing to the eye.

Both the foundation and the brick gable ends are laid in five-course bond. The weatherboards on the front and rear facades are not original, but consist of beveled German siding. This does not extend all the way to the corner at each end, but leaves about nine inches of brick exposed, with a double-beaded corner board used to cover the seam between siding and brick.

The principal facade faces south, toward the old Queenstown Road. The door is located in the center bay, with unusual two-over-two sidelights

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

flanking the door. The remainder of the facade is symmetrically arranged, with two nine-over-six windows on either side of the door on the first floor and three gable-roofed dormers with six-over-six sash on the second floor. A modern porch now covers the central three bays on this facade.

On the west gable, there is a nine-over-six window to the left of the north chimney and to the right of the south chimney on the first floor and one four-over-four window in the center of the gable on the second floor.

The rear or north facade is similar to the front, with a paneled door without sidelights in the center bay flanked by a pair of six-over-six windows on each side. Three gable-roofed, six-over-six dormers are symmetrically placed on the second floor.

On the east gable, there is a nine-over-six window to the left of the chimney and an original door to the right on the first floor and a four-over-four window to the right of the chimney on the second floor. A bulkhead entrance below the first floor window provides the only access to the cellar. A modern porch covers the northern two-thirds of this gable.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

Part of the cornice is early, if not original, but a number of alterations have been made. On the south facade, only the boxed soffit remains. The crown mold and bed mold have been replaced with a piece of double beveled threshold, set in the proper location at an angle. On the north facade, the early bed mold remains, but the crown mold is modern. The cornice returns on the west gable and is carried up the gable eaves, a treatment characteristic of the mid-nineteenth century. The east gable eave is finished with rake-boards. These are modern replacements and are not beaded or tapered.

The interior is laid out in an unusual variation of the central hall Georgian plan in which all the rooms are a different size. The front rooms are larger than the rear rooms, and the hall is unusually narrow, with an enclosed winder stair adjoining the hall at the rear. The longitudinal partition walls are also offset, so that the front room to the west of the hall is slightly larger than the front room to the east. The stair is on the west side of the hall, making the rear west room considerably smaller than its counterpart to the east.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION

The original plan has been altered somewhat. The wall between the east frontroom and the hall has been removed, and the hall partitioned off, leaving just two rooms in the front half of the house with two smaller rooms separated by a short hall in the rear.

The front rooms are each heated by a fireplace on the center of the gable wall. The fireplace in the southwest room retains an early mantel dating to the early nineteenth century.

Other decorative features remaining in this room include a very fine interior cornice, consisting of a crown mold applied against a beaded fascia board, all of the original chairrail and baseboard, and raised paneling in the recesses below the south windows.

In the southeast room, the mantel is gone, and only the fascia board of the cornice remains, with a modern crown mold applied to it. The baseboard and chairrail remain, however, and the south windows have raised panel recesses. Seams in the cornice, chairrail, and baseboard show where the original hall partition was removed. The front door and sidelights are highlighted with Greek architraves.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.4 DESCRIPTION

The northwest room is relatively plain, with a late nineteenth century mantel and window trim. There is evidence of an original door in the south wall, allowing access to the southwest room. A curious feature found both in the northwest room and the hall is the use of horizontal beaded paneling as wainscoting.

The northeast room has been modernized and now serves as a kitchen. The original corner chimney remains, but has been covered with modern paneling.

On the second floor, the stair rises to a small hall running along the north wall of the house, providing access to large sleeping chambers at the east and west end of the house, and a small unheated chamber adjacent to the hall on the south side of the house. A modern bathroom has been added by partitioning off the north side of the hall.

Virtually all of the original trim remains on the second floor. The door surrounds consist of a beaded fascia board with an ovolo molding with fillets. The dormer windows are plain, while the gable windows employ the same surround as the doors. The small fireplaces in the east and west rooms have simple board surrounds with the inner edge beaded and the

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.5 DESCRIPTION

outer edge embellished with an ovolo molding. Raised panel doors with ovolo moldings remain on the three original door openings. The partition between the stair hall and the unheated chamber is constructed of vertical beaded boards plastered on the inner face. All other partitions are stud and plaster.

The roof is of common rafter construction with a pitch of forty-three degrees. The rafters are pit sawn and average 3 x 3½ inches, set on 19 to 20-inch centers. They are secured at the ridge with a pegged mortise-and-tenon joint.

The collar beams are half-dovetailed and pegged into the rafters and also serve as ceiling joists for the second floor. The dormer framing appears to be original, and the original second floor partition walls protrude up through the ceiling and are nailed to the collar beams. The ceiling plaster lathing is split, not sawn.

The cellar consists of a three-room plan, with one room extending the full depth of the house at the east end, and the west end divided longitudinally into two rectangular rooms. All interior partitions

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.6 DESCRIPTION

are of brick, but the wall between the two west rooms has been partially removed, allowing a more open plan.

There is a blocked-up fireplace in the east room, below the southeast fireplace on the first floor. This does not appear to have been large enough for cooking. The remaining three bases have relieving arches, but no flues. A crude stairway remains in the northwest room. The opening is not original, but was cut in at a later date and has subsequently been closed up again.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

QA-224

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 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 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bachelor's Hope combines several unusual architectural features in what is probably a unique house form on the central Eastern Shore. Brick gable ends with frame sides and a double pile plan in a story-and-a-half house are rare survivals. In addition, the house exhibits an unusual variation of the central hall floor plan. It is the presence of these three features in combination that make Bachelor's Hope such an important structure.

Although some alterations have been made to the first floor of the house, the original plan is still clearly delineated, and much of the early fabric remains intact. Of particular note are a handsome Federal mantel, original interior cornice, and paneled window recesses. Also surviving is the original horizontal beaded wainscoting in the northwest room and the rear hall and all of the original woodwork on the second

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

floor, including doors and mantels.

In 1676 Thomas Hailings of Talbot County was granted a patent for 150 acres. Recorded in 1683, the patent was for a tract of land called "Batchellors Hope", lying on the south side of the Chester River, at the head of Fishing Creek. (1)

Little is known of this first owner, but it seems probable that this was the Thomas Haylings noted in a patent certificate dated 1658, in which Emilia Johnson laid claim to land rights for transporting herself and three servants in 1651 and three more people in 1656. Among the latter group was Thomas Haylings. The patent does not specify if the latter three were also servants, but if someone else transported them, it can be assumed they were. (2)

Evidently Hailings did not even live long enough to receive the official document recording his patent, as his will was probated in May 1679, three years after the grant was made, but four years before it was recorded in the patent book. In his will Thomas Haylings, Carpenter, left

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.2 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

...unto Richard Chase...one hundred acres of land called the Bachelor's Hope, lying on the south side of Chester River at the head of Fishing Creek...⁽³⁾

To his friend John Chase, he left his tools and chest. The will of Richard Chase was probated in December 1699. He listed his profession as carpenter, and specified that his "plantation" should go to his cousin, Mary Becett "after Richard Morris has been ten years on it from this my will making".

In 1717, Mary Becket of Philadelphia, "Spinster", sold a tract of 150 acres on Fishing Creek, known as Batchelor's Hope, to Thomas Parsons of Queen Anne's County, whose profession is noted as "planter". The price was 4,000 pounds of tobacco.⁽⁵⁾

Beginning with Parsons' ownership, the distribution of Bachelor's Hope becomes somewhat complicated. In 1720 Parsons sold 60 acres of Bachelor's Hope to John Brown for 4,000 pounds of tobacco.⁽⁶⁾ In 1723, he patented 100 acres of a tract called "Neglect" directly adjoining Bachelor's Hope,⁽⁷⁾ and in 1735 he sold 49 acres of Neglect to John Brown for 4,900 pounds of tobacco.⁽⁸⁾

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.3 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Thomas Parsons died in late 1745 or early 1746 and left to his grandson, John Taylor

...all that tract or parcel of Land that I now hold and Dwell on named Batcholders hope and also a part of a tract of land called neglect, containing one hundred acres more or less... (9)

John Taylor was a minor at the time of his grandfather's death, and the Orphans Court of Queen Anne's County ordered that a valuation of the property be made and an annual rent established which Taylor's guardian, Thomas Dodd, was to pay for the use of the land. The valuation was returned to the Court in April 1747, and included the following description of the buildings and lands:

...(We) do find thereon one framed dwelling house 24 feet long and 18 feet wide with a brick chimney, an earthen floor below and no floor above, one old dwelling house 28 feet long and 18 feet wide very much out of repair one milk house 12 feet square the

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.4 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

weather boards very much decayed, one new logged corn house 12 feet long and 6 feet wide, one old tobacco house 40 feet long and 22 feet wide--the weatherboards want repairing and a new cover, 100 bearing apple trees, a small peach orchard and some cherry trees about 90 acres of land enclosed within a middling fence and other fencing necessary. We value the whole at 400 pounds of tobacco per year exclusive of the widow's third and the quit rents due to his Lordship, and further that the said guardian is permitted to get timber upon any part of the land for the necessary repairing of the houses and fencing upon the premises, and also to clear one acre of land per year in a regular manner adjoining to the premises. (10)

After reaching his majority, John Taylor took full possession of the land, and in 1773 entered into a mortgage agreement with Richard and William Tilghman for "all such part of...Bachelors Hope and part of Neglect which he claimeth by virture of the last Will of a certain Thomas Parsons...containing by

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.5 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

estimation 150 acres..."(11)

Despite the mortgage, John Taylor was apparently able to retain possession of the property for in 1783 the Federal tax assessment listed the following owners for Bachelors Hope and Neglect:(12)

Nathaniel Taylor: Neglect and Hope, 94 acres.

Sarah Taylor: Neglect and Hope, 47 acres.

Nathaniel Browne: Bachelors Hope. 60 acres.

Neglect, 49½ acres.

Nathaniel Taylor is the son of John Taylor, as attested by a deed executed in 1785.(13) Sarah Taylor is never identified, but presumeably was either John Taylor's wife or his daughter. Nathaniel Browne is clearly a descendant and heir of the John Browne that purchased land from Thomas Parsons in 1720 and 1735.

In 1785 Nathaniel Taylor sold most if not all of his part of Bachelor's Hope to Nathan Browne.(14) The acreages continue to vary, with no clear explanation of whether smaller parcels have been sold off or the actual acreage is simply not known. This deed notes both Nathaniel Taylor's relationship to John

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.6 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Taylor, and the mortgage to the Tilghmans:

Nathaniel Taylor, eldest son of John Taylor, deceased, to Nathan Browne...for 264 pounds seven shillings and six pence...all that part of a tract of land called Batchelor's Hope... which he the said Nathaniel claims as heir to his father John Taylor aforesaid and which was mortgaged by the said John Taylor to Richard Tilghman and William Tilghman, Jr. by deed dated on or about August 26, 1773, containing 70½ acres of land by the same more or less, and being part of the said Tract of Land on which the said Nathan Browne now dwelleth... (15)

Nathan Browne died soon after this purchase, and in his will named his wife, Mary, and his son, John Browne, as executors. (16) The will does not enumerate how his real estate was to be divided, but in 1798 the Federal Direct Tax listed John Brown as owning Bachelor's Hope and Neglect. (17) The following description of buildings is included in the list:

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.7 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

1 dwelling house 34 x 16, 3 windows 44 x 28,
2 windows 24 x 28; Small addition 14 x 16,
2 windows 44 x 28, 1 window 44 x 20; 1 kitchen
18 x 20.

In 1807 John Browne purchased fifty acres of Neglect for \$300. The deed specifies that this parcel of land is part of the same tract known as Neglect already owned by Brown.⁽¹⁸⁾ This must be the 50 acres that Thomas Parsons left to John Taylor and which was not included when Nathaniel Taylor sold Bachelor's Hope to Nathaniel Browne in 1785. Thus John Browne had finally gained possession of all of Neglect and the majority of Bachelor's Hope.

John Browne died in 1815, and left his estate to his children, to be held as joint tenants. There are seven children listed, four daughters and three sons.⁽¹⁹⁾ In 1819 the Orphans Court ordered that a valuation be made of the lands of Nathan, Thomas C., and John F. Browne, minors, the heirs of John Browne. The valuation includes the following description of "the home farm", clearly referring to Bachelor's Hope:

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.8 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"No. 2. A farm in the Tenure of Arthur Carter, generally known as the home farm. There is on said Farm a dwelling house 40 by 30 feet single story, brick ends, weather boarding front and back, in good (repair) also a framed kitchen, meat house, carriage house, a barn 36 x 20 feet shedded on the sides, all in good order, there is also a sawed log corn house and stable somewhat out of order, an old corn house and stable under one common roof, wanting considerable repair and one other stable and Hen house, the former in a State of ruin the other in tolerable repair. Two old apple orchards, containing together about 110 trees, a young apple orchard of 60 trees and peach orchard old of about 70 trees, garden of 7/8 of an acre under worm fence, a few Quince and plum trees, the said farm containing about 235 acres from 30 to 40 of which are in wood, and which we estimate at the annual value of 250 dollars. (20)

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.9 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The main dwelling house described in this valuation is obviously the house which stands today. Although the actual dimensions are 40 feet by 27 feet, the brick gable ends and frame sides provide clear confirmation. As this house was not described on the 1798 Federal Direct Tax, it must have been built by John Browne between 1798 and his death in 1815.

Numerous references may be found to a John Browne in Frederick Emory's history of the county, and although it is difficult to ascertain which generation they refer to, it is possible to say with certainty that this John Browne served as Clerk of the Circuit Court from 1811 until his death.⁽²¹⁾ It can therefore be assumed that this was the same John Browne who was appointed a trustee to the county almshouse in 1801 and served as secretary and treasurer for the almshouse at least from 1802 until 1805.⁽²²⁾ In 1803 he was a member of the Queen Anne's County Democratic Committee,⁽²³⁾ and in 1814 served as secretary.⁽²⁴⁾

In 1824, a tax assessment lists the following entry for Bachelor's Hope:⁽²⁵⁾

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.10 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Browne, John of Nathan, Heirs	
Batchellors Hope	136½ acres
Neglect	43½ acres
Neglect	50 acres

Although no deed or instrument can be found to establish how the estate was eventually divided, Bachelors Hope descended to Dr. Nathan Browne, for in 1880 the property is deeded by William M. Busey, "Trustee for the estate of Dr. Nathan Browne, late of Carroll County", to James E. Bailey. The property is said to contain 240 acres, less a six-acre parcel previously sold and a family burial plot containing about one-half acre. (26)

The property was sold to Bailey in 1877, and in 1879 Bailey sold the land to David Barton before his own deed had been officially recorded. (27) In 1887, Barton sold Bachelor's Hope to Emma Davis. (28) In 1895 the property was involved in a chancery case, which includes a newspaper clipping with the following description:

...Improvements consist of a comfortable and

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.11 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

commodious dwelling house which has undergone full repairs during the past year, a large new stable, a good substantial granary and other outbuildings... (29)

The sale was not completed until 1900, when Emma Davis deeded the land to the administrators of the estate of William McKenney.⁽³⁰⁾ They in turn sold it to Susan B. Mitchell in 1916.⁽³¹⁾ A deed could not be found between Susan Mitchell and Maggie Morris, but in 1932 Morris sold the property to Thomas C. Horsey, and the deed specifies that this is the same parcel sold to Susan Mitchell in 1916 by the administrators of William McKenney.⁽³²⁾ In 1937 the Trustees for Thomas C. Horsey sold Bachelor's Hope to Phares Morris,⁽³³⁾ and in 1970 Morris' widow, Annie Marie Morris, deeded the property to Thomas Phares Morris, the present owner.⁽³⁴⁾

Footnotes

- (1) Patents Liber CB#3, folio 250. Hall of Records. See also Rent Rolls. Vol. 12-A, No. 3, folio 54. (1676)
- (2) Patents Liber Q, folio 19, April 13, 1658. Hall of Records.
- (3) Talbot County Wills, Box 11, folder 4. Probated May 31, 1679. Executed February 24, 1678. Last will and testament of Thomas Haylings.
- (4) Talbot County Wills. Liber EM#1, folio 168. Probated December 17, 1699. Executed April 10 (or 16), 1699. Last will and testament of Richard Chase.
- (5) Queen Anne's County Deeds, Liber IK#A, folio 165. November 17, 1717.
- (6) Deeds, Liber IK#B, folio 34. November 24, 1720.
- (7) Patents, Liber PL#5, folio 435. Executed July 2, 1721. Recorded July 1, 1723. Hall of Records.
- (8) Deeds, Liber RT#A, folio 430. November 6, 1735.
- (9) Wills, Liber JE#A, folio 249. Probated January 24, 1746. Executed February 17, 1741. Last will and testament of Thomas Parsons.
- (10) Deeds, Liber RT#C, folio 233. April 13, 1747. Valuation of the lands of John Taylor, minor.
- (11) Deeds RT#K, folio 186. August 28, 1773.

Footnotes

- (12) 1783 Tax Assessment, Corsica District of Queen Anne's County. Hall of Records.
- (13) Deeds, Liber CD#1, folio 288. June 18, 1785.
- (14) Ibid. We can assume this is Nathaniel Browne, listed on the 1783 tax assessment. As the properties are combined in later tax lists it is clear they are directly related if not the same man.
- (15) Ibid.
- (16) Wills, Liber SC#7, folio 71. Probated May 12, 1787. Executed February 26, 1787. Last will and testament of Nathan Browne.
- (17) 1798 Federal Direct Tax: Worrell Hundred. Hall of Records.
- (18) Deeds, Liber STW#9, folio 3. March 17, 1807.
- (19) Wills, Liber TCE#1, folio 21. Probated December 23, 1815. Executed December 12, 1815. Last will and testament of John Browne, son of Nathan Browne.
- (20) Guardian Bonds and Valuations, Liber WHN#4, folio 137. September 14, 1819.
- (21) Emory, p. 132.
- (22) Ibid, p. 260-261.
- (23) Ibid, p. 366.
- (24) Ibid, p. 439.

Footnotes

(25) 1824 Tax Assessment, Queen Anne's County. Hall of Records.

(26) Deeds, Liber JW#11, folio 356. November 15, 1879. In the deed, it is noted that the land was sold to Bailey on June 21, 1877, but the deed was not drawn up until November 1879, and was not recorded until November 1880.

(27) Deeds, Liber JW 10, folio 124. October 20, 1879.

(28) Deeds, Liber SCD#9, folio 385. January 15, 1887.

(29) See Chancery Case #1277. Queen Anne's County Courthouse.

(30) Deeds, Liber JE6#1, folio 448. July 11, 1900.

(31) Deeds, Liber WFW#9, folio 396. October 19, 1916.

(32) Deeds, Liber BHT#14, folio 421. June 2, 1932.

(33) Deeds, Liber WHC#4A, folio 482. March 23, 1937.

(34) Deeds, Liber CWC#46, folio 453. March 6, 1970.

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

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

12/6/78

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

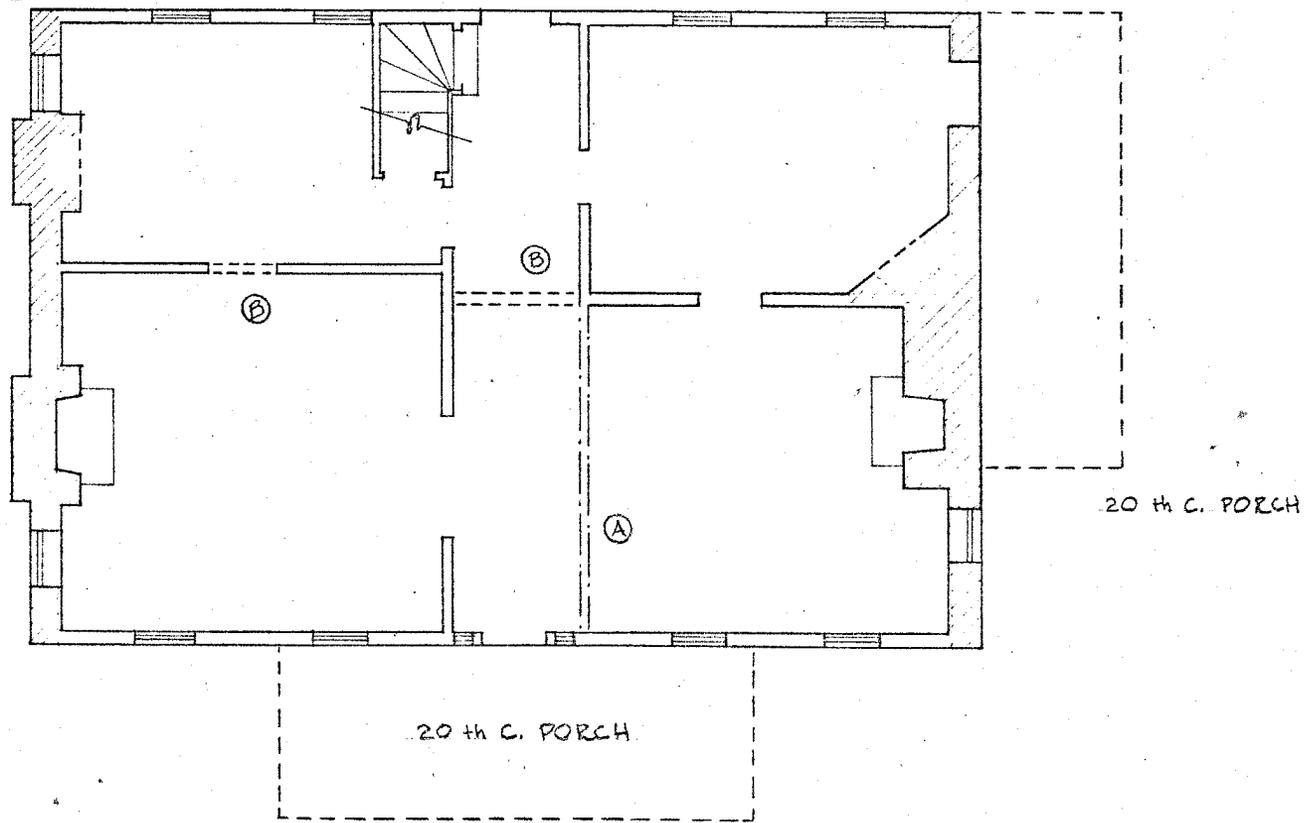
STATE

Maryland 21617

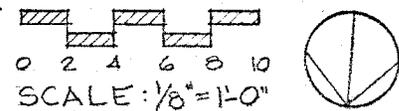
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

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



- Ⓐ LOCATION OF ORIGINAL PARTITION WALL
- Ⓑ 20 TH C. ALTERATIONS



ORLANDO RIDOUT V

QA-224

BACHELOR'S HOPE
CENTREVILLE, MARYLAND

APRIL 7, 1978

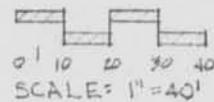
PASTURE

308'-0"

GARDEN

180'-0"

PLOWED FIELD



QA-224

BACHELOR'S HOPE
CENTREVILLE, MARYLAND

APRIL 7, 1978



Nichols Pt

Spaniard Pt

SPAN

CONQUEST

CORSICA

RIVER

Holton Pt, Town Pt

Ship Pt, Wash Pt, Cedar Pt, Rocky Pt

PEARLE LDG, Middle Quarter Cove

Corsica, PUSEY LDG, Jacobs Nose, Green Pt

Robbley Cove

Gibston School, Fort Pt

CORSICA NECK

ROAD

213

Grove Creek

Brownsville

CENTREVILLE

BACHELOR'S HOPE

6A-224

Queen Anne's County H.S.

WRIGH NECK

NECK ROAD

Paris Chapter Ch

213

18

WILG MAIN NECK

Tilghman Creek

Gouldtown Ch

301

Abbott Cave

JOHN BROWN ROAD

213

SILO

PERLEE ROAD

309

Queenstown

St Peter's Ch and Cem

309

QUEENSTOWN

Bloomingdale

213

SPORTMAN RD

St Peter's Ch and Cem

213

QA-224
Bachelor's Hope

Mary McCarthy
Spring/Summer 2003
Digital color photo on file at MHT





BACHELOR'S HOUSE

QA # 224



QA-224 Bachelors Hope
Centerville
OR V 1978



QA-224 Bachelor's Hope

Centerville vic.

Oulands Ridout v 1979 (MHT)

west gable and south facade



DA-224 Bachelor's Hope

Contract no

Orlando Ridout v 1979 (MHT)

East gable and south facade



QA-224 Bachelors Hoge

Centerville vic.

Orlando Ridout v 1979 (MHT)

Interior mantel