

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: ~~P.G. #79-29~~ Building Date: 1740's, ca. 1800, 1900

Building Name: Overseer's House

Location: 5611 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro

Private/Residence/Unoccupied/Fair-Poor/Inaccessible

Description

The Overseer's House is a modest frame vernacular dwelling of the mid-eighteenth century, expanded ca. 1800 and enlarged again by a late Victorian extension. It consists of a one-and-one-half story two-part main block, to which has been added a one-story two-room extension. The first stage was the southmost, a one-room structure with loft space above, constructed ca. 1750. Originally this small dwelling had an exterior brick chimney with weatherings at its south gable end. There is an entrance in each of the east and west elevations, and a small boxed dog-leg staircase in the northwest corner. This earliest section was of post-and-girt construction, with diagonal corner braces. The heavy hewn members are joined by lapped joints pegged together. The structure is sheathed with riven board, applied flush to the framing, to which has been applied brick-pattern asphalt shingle. The projecting boxed cornice is composed of wide boards. Interior structural members were totally exposed and coated with whitewash; these members were later covered with machine-cut lath and plaster. Early in the nineteenth century, the Overseer's House was expanded by the construction of a one-in-one-half story north addition. Around the turn of this century, the northerly one-story section was constructed, of balloon-frame construction, built of machine-sawn materials.

Significance

The Overseer's House is a unique surviving example of an early domestic farm outbuilding; the structure contains a number of outstanding construction details, including the projecting exterior cornice, and the exposed interior structural members. This structure has served as an overseer's dwelling, a slave quarter, and most recently a tenant farm house; it was built in the mid-eighteenth century by David Craufurd, merchant of Upper Marlboro, who lived in the house on adjoining Kingston. Three generations of Craufurds lived and farmed this land on the west side of Upper Marlboro; during their ownership the Overseer's House was enlarged by the addition of another room. The property including both Kingston and the Overseer's House was sold in 1859 to Frederick Sasscer and has remained in the possession of his descendants to the present day. The Overseer's House is a unique surviving example in Prince George's County of an early domestic farm outbuilding; it is in poor condition, and may be moved to a new location for the purpose of preservation.

Acreage: 109.48 acres

Survey No.

Magi No.

DOE yes no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Overseer's House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 5611 Old Crain Highway at Rte. 4, not for publication

city, town Upper Marlboro vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | <input type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Lansdale G. Sasscer, Jr., et al

street & number 14803 Pratt Street telephone no.:

city, town Upper Marlboro state and zip code MD

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 3673

street & number 14735 Main Street folio 695

city, town Upper Marlboro state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title HABS/Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date 1936/1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records Lib.Congress/Historic Preservation Commission

city, town c/o MNCPPC, Upper Marlboro state Maryland

7. Description

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---|---|--------------------|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input checked="" 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 of move _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | | |

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Overseer's House is a modest frame vernacular dwelling of the mid-eighteenth century, expanded ca. 1800 and enlarged again by a late Victorian extension. It consists of a one-and-one-half story two-part main block, to which has been added a one-story two-room extension. It stands on high ground just west of the town of Upper Marlboro one-half mile west of Kingston, the home of the family which operated the farm on which it stands.

Construction details indicate that the present building was constructed in three stages; see floor plan. The first stage was the southmost (Section A), a one-and-one half story one-room structure with loft space above, constructed ca. 1750. Originally this small dwelling had an exterior brick chimney with weatherings at its south gable end. Today that brick chimney is gone, replaced (after a chimney fire in 1972) by an interior concrete-block stove chimney just west of the ridge at the south gable end. This southmost section is circa 19 by 15 feet, and two bays wide; it has an entrance in each of the east and west elevations. These doors, presently boarded up, are directly across from one another; to the south of each door is a 4/4 double hung sash window. Originally, there was a third window in the north gable end; this opening was subsequently lengthened to form a door into the later central section (B).

The original one-room section (A) has a small boxed staircase in the northwest corner. This two-run dog-leg staircase opens at the east end, winds around 90° and rises steeply westward along the north wall to the small bedroom above. It is enclosed by vertical beaded boards of varying width.

This earliest section was of post-and-girt construction, with diagonal corner braces. The heavy hewn members are joined by lapped joints pegged together. The structure is sheathed with riven board, applied flush to the framing, to which has been applied (in this century) brick-pattern asphalt shingle. Two of the most interesting features of this oldest section are the exterior cornice and the interior finish. The boxed cornice projects approximately six inches from the surface, is composed of very wide boards hung from the girt, and is a prominent and unusual decorative feature. The interior finishing of this section is probably unique in Prince George's County. The interior structural members were totally exposed and coated with whitewash; these members were later covered with machine-cut lath and plaster. Interior trim around doors and windows is of plain board.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

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Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 2

Early in the nineteenth century, the Overseer's House was expanded by the construction of a one-in-one-half story, ca. 12 by 15 foot addition to the north (B). The original window in the north gable end became a door leading into the additional space, as did the loft window at the top of the stairs. An exterior brick chimney was built at the new north gable end, serving a five-foot fire place which warmed this additional parlor. The new section (B) had one window on the west, and a door and window on the east. The steeply-pitched roof was extended to cover this added space. Differences can be observed in the roof construction techniques between sections A and B: in the earlier section (A) rafters were joined by overlap connections, while in the later section (B) they are joined by mortise and slim tenon. All materials are hand-cut. It was probably at this time that the dormers were built into the extended roof planes; there are two gable dormers, symmetrically placed in each plane. The dormers are presently boarded up, but appear to enclose 6/6 double hung sash windows. (The complete roof of the first two sections, circa 31 feet long, is now covered with standing-seam metal painted red.) At the same time a one-story porch was built across the west facade. Porch rafters were keyed into the roof rafters at a shallower pitch, the board cornice was extended vertically to meet the new rafters, and was continued across at the eaves of the new addition (B). The porch roof is now covered with standing-seam metal, continuous from the roof and supported by plain square posts. A smaller one-story porch was built, possibly at the same time, on the east elevation, sheltering the two east doorways. Siding is slightly narrower than that of the older section. This section (B) rests on a brick foundation; the older section (A) may have had a brick foundation, but it is now essentially deteriorated and missing.

Interior trim in the second section is plain, similar to that of the older section, but unlike the older section, the structural members are covered by riven lath and hair plaster.

Around the turn of this century, the northerly one-story section (C) was constructed, adding two more small (11 by 15 foot) living spaces. It is of balloon-frame construction, built of machine-sawn materials. At the ridge at the north gable end is an interior stove chimney which warms the northmost room; the interior room has no direct heat, but would have received radiated heat from the large brick chimney, originally exterior, which it enclosed. There are two windows and one door in each of the west and east elevations; windows are 2/2 double hung sash, now boarded up, with plain board surrounds. The boxed cornice was continued across the eaves of this late Victorian addition on both elevations, and the roof, which has a shallower pitch than that of the first two sections, is covered with the same standing-seam metal. The Victorian addition rested on brick piers, later infilled to form a full brick foundation. There is no basement under any of the house.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

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Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 3

The building stands on a high point of ground now covered with saplings and underbrush. At the foot of the hill to the west are the traces of an old farm lane which leads northwest from the old (now closed) road to Croom, past several tobacco barns and the ruins of two tenant houses. One of these structures is in ruinous condition to the extent that its structural members can be readily observed; it can be dated to the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century. It is of hall-and-parlor plan, post and girt construction with full brick nogging between the posts. All of these structures stand on the Bacon Hall tract, part of the larger land holdings (known as Kingston Park) of the Craufurd and later the Sasser families.

8. Significance

| 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Local history |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | |

Specific dates 1740's ca 1800, ca 1900 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G
Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Overseer's House is a unique surviving example of an early domestic farm outbuilding; the structure contains a number of outstanding construction details, including the projecting exterior cornice, and the exposed interior structural members. Built in the 1740's, it has served as an overseer's dwelling, a slave quarter, and most recently a tenant farm house. This structure reflects a remarkable continuity, for during its nearly 250-year existence, the farmland on which it stands has been owned and worked by only two families.

The Overseer's House stands on a tract of land known as Bacon Hall, part of the land holdings in the early eighteenth century of merchant David Craufurd.¹ Craufurd lived in the earliest part of the house on adjoining Kingston Park. In the 1740's, he had the subject small dwelling built, probably to house the overseer/manager of his farm labor force. The dwelling was modest, originally one room with loft, ca. 20 by 15 feet, but it was distinguished by a handsome projecting cornice.²

David Craufurd II, son of the merchant, inherited his father's plantation in 1749. Like his father, the younger Craufurd was a merchant and was an active supplier of troops during the Revolutionary War. He also served as a Justice of the County Court, and as a Delegate to the General Assembly.³

In 1772, Craufurd had all of his Marlboro property resurveyed, and repatented as Kingston Park; his 700-acre plantation contained 166 acres of Bacon Hall on which the overseer's house stands.⁴

David Craufurd II died in 1801 and bequeathed Kingston to his son, Colonel David Craufurd (III).⁵ It was probably soon after this that the overseer's dwelling was enlarged by the addition of a room to the north. Colonel Craufurd owned considerable real estate, assessed at the highest value in the Marlboro area.⁶

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM
Statement of Significance (continued)

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Survey No. ~~P.G.#79-29~~
Section 8 Page 2

After Colonel Craufurd's death in 1842, a commission was appointed to survey and divide his real estate among his heirs.⁷ In 1859, these heirs sold the property to Dr. Frederick Sasscer, and from that time until the present, both the Kingston dwelling and the farm on which the Overseer's House stands has remained in the possession of Dr. Sasscer's heirs.⁸ It is likely that during the nineteenth century the overseer's house was used as a slave quarter. After the Civil War, the exposed interior members were covered with lath and plaster, and the structure became a tenant farm dwelling.

Around the turn of this century, during the ownership of Editor Frederick Sasscer, son of the doctor, the latest addition was built on the north end of the overseer's house. It remained a tenant farm dwelling (as did the two other early buildings which were built as slave quarters on the property) until the late 1970's.

The Overseer's House is a unique surviving example in Prince George's County of an early domestic farm outbuilding. The closest comparison is the William Wells House (74B-16a) also dating from the eighteenth century. The Overseer's House is distinguished by its decorative projecting cornice, and the fact that the interior structural members were originally exposed. The Overseer's House is in poor condition, and may be moved to a new location for the purpose of preservation.

Notes

1. Prince George's County Deed Y:264
2. Dendrochronological studies conducted in 1981 indicate that the timber was cut in the 1740's.
3. See National Register nomination, Kingston (#79-13)
4. Patented certificate #1247
5. Prince George's County Will T#1:483
6. See National Register nomination, Kingston (#79-13)
7. Prince George's County Commission #185
8. Prince George's County Deeds FS #1:306, 323

(revised information entered 11/9/81)

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Old house on Bacon Hall

AND/OR COMMON Overseer's House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 5611 Old Crain Highway

CITY, TOWN Upper Marlboro

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 4th

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Prince George's

3 CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT |
| | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER none |

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Lansdale G. Sasscer et al

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER 6705 South Osborne Rd.

CITY, TOWN Upper Marlboro

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code Maryland 20772

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. P.G. Co. Courthouse

Liber #: 3673

Folio #: 695

STREET & NUMBER Main Street

CITY, TOWN Upper Marlboro Md.

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites / HABS

DATE 1974

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE COUNTY ___ LOCAL / Fed. 1936

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Calvert Mansion, 4811 Riverdale Rd. Riverdale Md.

CITY, TOWN Library of Congress, Washington D.C.

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

PG:82A-44

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is a one-and-one-half-story frame gable-roofed building with a steeply pitched roof, built in two sections; a one-story addition has built on the west. The two-bay eastmost section of the house has been dendrochronologically dated to the mid-eighteenth century, probably 1742 to 1752. It has several features unique in Prince George's County structures: riven lapped siding, and an original interior of exposed structural members coated with whitewash.¹ Early in the nineteenth century a one-and-one-half-story section one bay in width was added to the west gable end; this second section had an exterior brick chimney at its west gable end, now enclosed by the later (probably early twentieth century) one-story addition. (The interior chimney at the east gable end has been rebuilt since a fire destroyed it in 1972.) A shed-type porch covers the south (main) facade of the two earliest sections. There are two dormers on each slope of the roof.

1. Architectural investigation by J.M. Walton, Jr.,
23 March 1981

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input 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 ca. 1742

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This structure stands on a tract called Bacon Hall, patented to Ninian Beall in 1671.¹ After Beall's death in 1717, the tract eventually was sold in 1741 to David Craufurd,² and the eastmost (oldest) section of the building was built shortly afterwards. The adjoining central section was added early in the nineteenth century. The farm on which this simple structure stood passed to a third generation of the family, Col. David Craufurd, and after his death in 1841 was sold to Zadock Sasscer whose descendants own it today.³ During the early years of the Sasscer family's ownership, the structure came to be known as the manager's or overseer's house, a name it retains today. Negotiations are in process for relocation and restoration of the overseer's house, which is probably the oldest surviving frame structure in Prince George's County.

1. Patent #16:373
2. Deed Y:264
3. Commission #185, Deed PS#1:306



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

PG:132A-44

Deeds Y:254; PS#1:306,543; 3673:695
Wills T#1:483; WTD#2:245
Commission #185

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
Susan G. Pearl

ORGANIZATION P.G. Historical & Cultural Trust DATE June 1981

STREET & NUMBER Calvert Mansion, MNCPPC, 4811 Riverdale Rd. TELEPHONE 779-2011

CITY OR TOWN Riverdale , Maryland STATE

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

(entered 9,15,80)

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

P.G. County Survey # PG:82A-44
79-29 Date Undetermined (17th to 19th c.)

Building Name Overseer's House

Location Old Crain Highway at Rte.#4, Upper Marlboro, Md.

Open to Public yes no

This is a one-and-one-half-story frame building with a steeply pitched gable roof. There are three irregular bays on the main (south) facade, with the door and one window in the eastmost room. An interior chimney rises at the east gable end; it has been rebuilt since a fire destroyed it in 1972. A shed type porch covers the south facade, above which are two dormer windows. The exterior chimney at the west gable end is now enclosed by a one-story addition to the west.

This structure has been known for many years as the overseer's house. It stands on a tract called Bacon Hall, patented to Ninian Beall in 1671. Beall rose to great prominence before the end of the seventeenth century, was the owner of vast land acreage, and died at Bacon Hall in 1717. It is possible that the eastern section of the house was built during Beall's lifetime, and perhaps even served at one time as his dwelling house. Non-destructive architectural investigation, however, has failed to substantiate this. The land passed to the David Craufurd family, another prominent Upper Marlboro family, and then, just after the Civil War, to Dr. Frederick Sasser. It remains in the hands of his descendants. During the nineteenth century, it served as the residence of the farm overseer. The house is now empty, awaiting more thorough architectural investigation which may be able to establish its extreme antiquity.

. Priv/unocc/ ?/fair

Form 10-445
(5/62)

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. STATE Md. COUNTY PG TOWN VICINITY #62 STREET NO. 1/2 mile n.w. Old Crain Hy. 1/2 mile s.w. Upper Marlboro ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE Priv dwelling PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION clapboard NO. OF STORIES 1 1/2</p> | <p>HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY</p> <p>2. NAME ? Overseer's House</p> <p>DATE OR PERIOD Late 18th-early 19th STYLE MARITIME? ARCHITECT BUILDER</p> <p>3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE</p> |
| <p>4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC</p> <p>Brick chimneys Overhanging porch. Outbuildings. Dormers--may mark building as 18th cent.</p> <p>Rates closer examination.</p> <p><u>1680 HOUSE</u></p> <p>LIKE SASSCER'S GREEN?</p> <p>J. C. Wilfong, Jr., April 30, 1969 Believe c 1680 too early by a century.</p> | |

MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

"Overseer's House" much older! 1680,
says Mrs Cook. Owned by owner of #92, Mrs. Beall;
tenant-occupied. - DFR (if this is old house hill on
a hill overlooking interchange of Rte 4 & Old Crain Hwy.)

SUPPLEMENTAL INFO

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE</p> <p>Endangered Interior Exterior</p> | | |
| <p>6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)</p> | <p>7. PHOTOGRAPH</p> | |
| <p>8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.</p> <p>Rinn Survey, 1933</p> | <p>9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER</p> <p>DATE OF RECORD</p> | |

Prince-George County

Source - Historic sites identification map
published by Md. Nat'l Capital
Park & Planning Comm.



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

P.A.
79-29
PG 82A-44

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1. NAME | | | | |
| COMMON: | | | | |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: Overseers House | | | | |
| 2. LOCATION | | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: Old Crain Highway | | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro | | | | |
| STATE: Maryland | | | COUNTY: Prince George's | |
| 3. CLASSIFICATION | | | | |
| CATEGORY (Check One) | | OWNERSHIP | | STATUS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress |
| | | Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered | | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural | <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Comments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | _____ | _____ |
| 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY | | | | |
| OWNER'S NAME: Mrs. Lansdale Sasscer | | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: 14507 Elm Street | | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro | | | STATE: Maryland | |
| 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION | | | | |
| COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Prince George's County Courthouse | | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: | | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro | | | STATE: Maryland | |
| Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): | | | | |
| 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS | | | | |
| TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic Sites in the Bi-County Region | | | | |
| DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local | | | | |
| DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission | | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue | | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring | | | STATE: Maryland | |

7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|------------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a 1-1/2 story frame structure with a shed-type porch across the main (south) facade. The south facade has two gabled dormer windows and a boxed cornice, visible under the present porch roof; the main floor is three irregular bays, with the entrance and one window toward the east end. On the west end, the chimney is free-standing, but the base has been covered by an extension of the house to the west.

The house has been covered with asbestos brick siding. Through holes in this, parts of two angle braces and a stud are visible, as are some sheathing boards which appear to be shiplapped. Through the boxed cornice, the end of the girt is visible at about the midpoint of the east section. The tenant said the attic has been completely ceiled below the rafters. The east chimney is small and internal.

Several years ago, the house burned and much of the east end was destroyed.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Blank area for Major Bibliographical References.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreeage Justification:

Blank area for Acreeage Justification.

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

| STATE: | COUNTY: |
|--------|---------|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring STATE: Maryland

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

Significance of this property is:

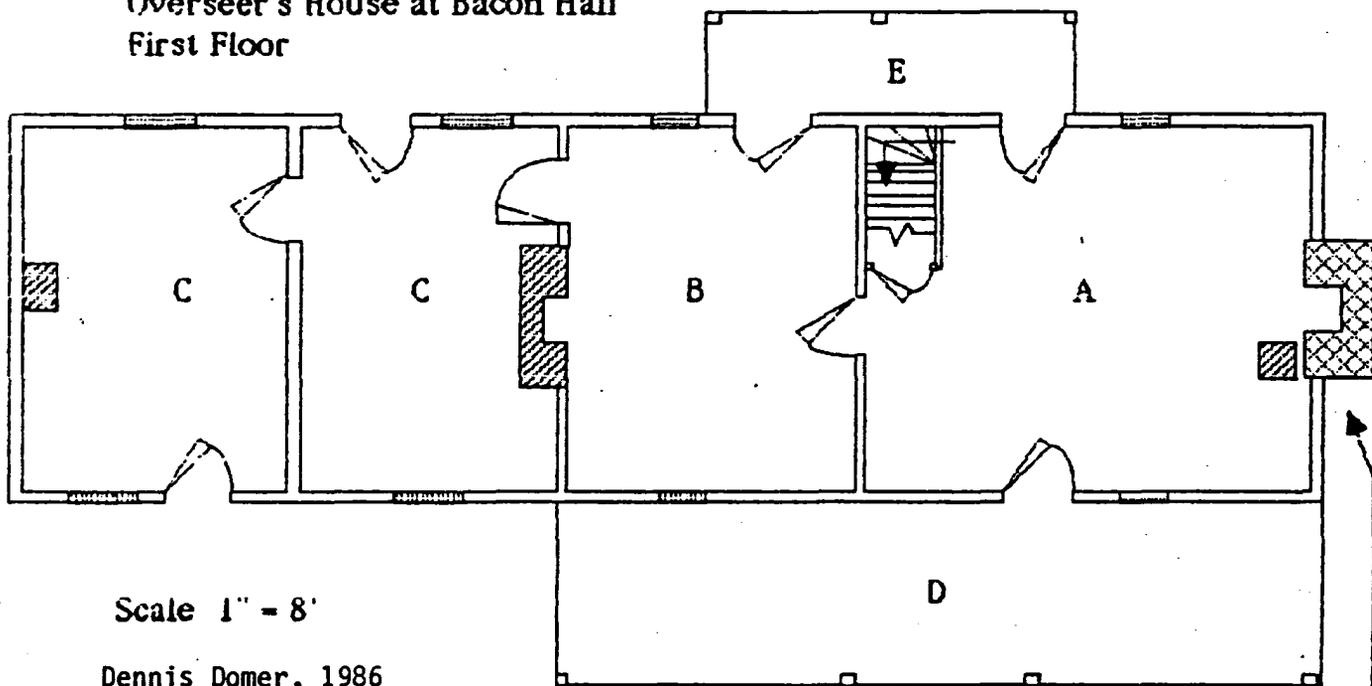
National State Local

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Overseer's House at Bacon Hall
First Floor



Scale 1" = 8'

Dennis Domer, 1986

chimney removed
mid 20th century

CHAIN OF TITLE
OVERSEER'S HOUSE

~~P.G.#79-29~~ PG:82A-44

3763:695
31 Dec 1968
Deed

Agnes Sasscer, widow, to Lansdale G. Sasscer, Jr., Lucy Sanders & Agnes Clagett; the Meadows Farm, 149.8 acres, same devised in item #4 of will of Frederick Sasscer; her 1/8 interest

WDA#14:376
12 Nov 1964
Will

Lansdale G. Sasscer, testator: all rest & residue of estate to wife Agnes, and children Agnes, Lucy and Lansdale G., Jr., share & share alike

WTD#2:245
12 Nov 1929
Will

Frederick Sasscer, testator: item #4, to sons Harold and Lansdale G., all of my farm lying west of the Chesapeake Beach Railway

#1353
1888
Admin.file

Frederick Sasscer, Sr., died October 1888, leaving property to wife Rosalie, and son Frederick Jr.

FS#1:543
15 June 1863
Property division

Zadok Sasscer, William Sasscer & Henrietta Sasscer to Frederick Sasscer; whereas Zadok Sr. died 1859 intestate, & four above Sasscers are his heirs; & whereas Sarah Forrest & Mary Kearney conveyed to above four Sasscers (FS#1:306) land which Sasscer Sr. had purchased from them before his death; and since then four Sasscers have agreed on division of said land; now grantors grant to Frederick Sasscer "The Meadows, part of Delay & Addition to Delay & part of Weston", 320 acres

FS#1:306
6 Dec 1862
Deed

Sarah Forrest & Mary Kearney to Frederick, Zadok, William & Henrietta Sasscer, heirs of Zadok Sasscer, deceased; 320 acres of The Meadows, Delay & Addition to Delay, & part of Weston, which Zadok Sasscer (dec'd) had purchased in 1854 from Forrest & Kearney; purchase price now paid but of deceased's estate, so grantors now execute deed to heirs.

#185
April 1842
Commission

Petition by heirs of (Col.) David Craufurd(III), including Sarah Forrest & Mary Kearney; commission divides Craufurd's real estate in two parts, one to heirs of Craufurd's brother Nathaniel, the other to heirs of Craufurd's sister, Sarah; this second part goes to Forrest & Kearney, 466 acres on left side of road from Marlboro to Thos. Clagett's plantation (Weston)

Chain of Title, cont'd
Overseer's House, P.G. ~~479-29~~
PG-82A-44

#1:483
27 May 1801
Will

David Craufurd (II) merchant, testator:
to son David (III), Kingston Park and all
remaining real estate

#1247
2 Sept 1772
Pat. Certif.

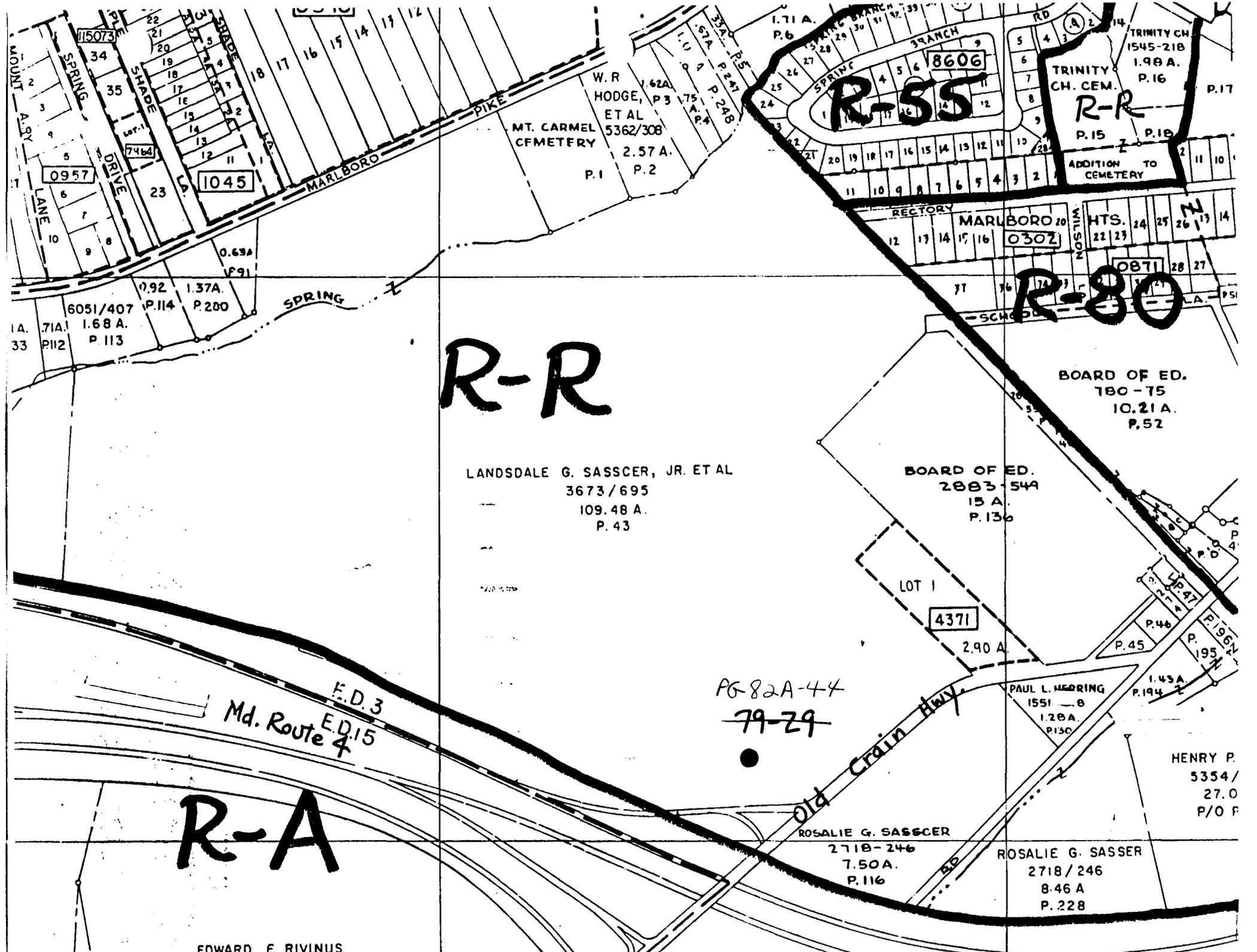
Resurvey of Kingston Park for David
Craufurd, to include 144 acres part of
Bacon Hall, now surveyed for $166\frac{1}{2}$ acres

Y:264
10 Apr 1741
Deed

Andrew Scott to David Craufurd, merchant,
144 acres of Bacon Hall, southeast of The
Grove; which Scott obtained from Sprigg,
originally from estate of Ninian Beall



OVERSEER'S HOUSE
MARLBORO, MARYLAND
VIEW FROM SOUTHWEST (FRONT) PHOTO BY: JOHN O. BROSTRUP



R-R

LANDSDALE G. SASSER, JR. ET AL
3673 / 695
109.48 A.
P. 43

BOARD OF ED.
2883-544
15 A.
P. 136

BOARD OF ED.
180-75
10.21 A.
P. 52

ROSALIE G. SASSER
2718-246
7.50 A.
P. 116

ROSALIE G. SASSER
2718 / 246
8.46 A
P. 228

R-A

R-55

R-R

R-80

F.D.3
Md. Route 4
E.D.15

PG 82A-44
~~79-29~~

W. R. HODGE, ET AL
5362/308
2.57 A.
P. 1 P. 2

TRINITY CH. CEM.
1545-218
1.98 A.
P. 16

ADDITION TO CEMETERY

RECTORY
MARLBORO HTS.
0302

MISSION ST.
0871

SCHOOL

LOT 1
4371

2.90 A.

PAUL L. MERRING
1551-8
1.28 A.
P. 130

1.43 A.
P. 194

HENRY P.
5354/
27.0
P/O P

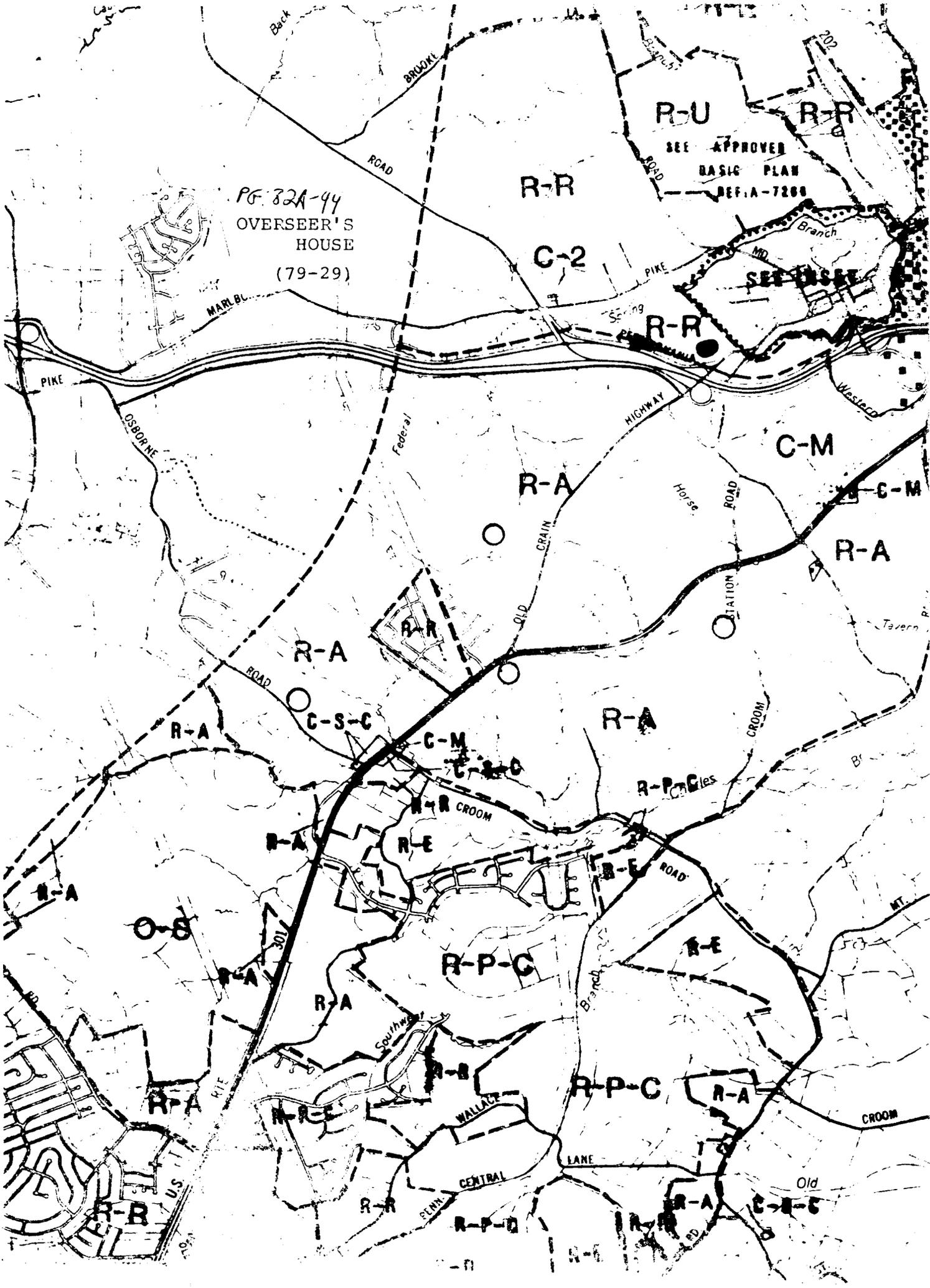
MOUNT ASY LANE
SPRING
SHADE
DRIVE
0957
115073
1045

6051/407
P. 114 P. 200
0.92 1.37A
P. 112 P. 113

SPRING

MARLBORO PIKE

Old Crain Hwy.



PG 82A-44
OVERSEER'S HOUSE
(79-29)

R-U R-R
SEE APPROVED
BASIC PLAN
REF. A-7200

SEE INSET

O-S

R-P-C

R-P-C

R-B

R-P-D

C-C-C



PG# 79-29

Virincio's House

Prince George's Co. MD.

Learn N. Park

March 1988

Southwest Corner

Yeg. Md Nest, Crest

183



Beckwith's House

Prince George's Co. MD.

Susan H. Pearl

March 1988

Luther St

Hq. Md. Pest Tract



PG # 79-29

George's name

George's Corp. Co. Md.

Laura H. Paul

March 1988

North wing from front east

Map: Md. Hist. Trust

3 of 3



NAME # 79-29 OVERSEER'S HOUSE

LOCATION RT 4 + OLD CRAIN HWAY UPPER MARLBORO, MD

FACADE S

PHOTO TAKEN 5/9/73 MOWYER