

Capsule Summary  
SM-483  
Richard H. Cockerille House  
Great Mills  
Private

Circa 1900 - 1910

The Richard H. Cockerille House is significant as an example of turn of the century Queen Anne style architecture in St. Mary's County. The narrow weatherboard siding, octagonal windows, multiple gables, and assymetrical plan are typical of the fashionable architectural style. Although both the house and its rural setting are little altered, the unoccupied structure is open to the weather and has begun to deteriorate.

The property on which this house stands was originally part of "Great Mills Farm," the homestead of John J. Allston from the mid to late nineteenth century. In 1894, a portion of the farm was sold to John T. West. Following West's death, 865 acres of the farm was sold to Robert Callahan of Washington, D.C.

Robert Callahan owned the property until 1909. In that year, he sold it to Richard H. Cockerille of Prince George's County. Although the exact date of construction remains unclear, the house certainly stood on the site between 1909 and 1912. During that time, Richard Cockerille operated a dentist's office in the full basement.

SM-483, Richard H. Cockerille House  
St. Mary's County  
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Plan Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period: Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870 -1930.

Historic Period Theme: Architecture

Resource Type

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use: Residence

Known Design Source: None

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM 483

Magi No.

DOE \_\_yes \_\_no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Richard H. Cokerille House

**2. Location**

street & number Flat Iron Road \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Great Mills \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 5

state Maryland \_\_\_\_\_ county St. Mary'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 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

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

name Robert Edward Frazier Jr. and Carole Ann Frazier

street & number Box 8 \_\_\_\_\_ telephone no.: (301) 994 2735

city, town Great Mills \_\_\_\_\_ state and zip code Maryland 20634

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse \_\_\_\_\_ liber EWA 584

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ folio 52

city, town Leonardtown \_\_\_\_\_ state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title \_\_\_\_\_

date \_\_\_\_\_  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<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.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

The Richard H. Cockerille House is located on a rise in the landscape on the west side of Flat Iron Road near Great Mills in St. Mary's County, Maryland. The house is currently unoccupied and obscured from view by vegetation. Cultivated fields extend north, south, and west of the structure. One outbuilding is located on the south side of the house. The house consists of a central rectangular block with the principal gable oriented on an east/west axis and two subordinate two-story, one-room wings. The wings have gables oriented on a north/south axis. One wing projects from the two western most bays on the north elevation of the main block while the other projects from the eastern most bay on the south elevation.

Built around 1912, the Richard H. Cockerille House has a continuous brick foundation and a full basement. The foundation is pierced by a series of three-light windows. The exterior is sheathed with weatherboard siding and finished with corner boards. The roof is covered with seamed metal.

The north (main) elevation of the main block is pierced by a four-panel entrance door and one two-over-two sash window with wide surrounds and an interior bead. These two bays are sheltered by a shed roof porch supported by square posts. Two two-over-two sash windows with identical surrounds light the second floor. An interior brick chimney projects from the north roof slope of the main block. To the west, a one-room wing projects from the main block. The wing is lighted on the first and second floors by two two-over-two sash windows with wide surrounds and an interior bead. A circular louvered vent pierces the verge of the eave.

The west elevation of the one-room northern wing is pierced by one two-over-two sash window with wide surrounds and an interior bead on both the first and second floors. The gable end of the main block is identical to that of the wing except that a circular, louvered vent with wide surrounds pierces the verge of the eave. At the east end of the main block, a one-room wing projects to the south. The west side of this wing is pierced by a four-panel door and a two-over-two sash window with wide surrounds and an interior bead on the first floor. The door opens onto a porch inserted into the space between the main block and wing. The porch is supported by brick piers. At one time the porch was screened and glazed. The second floor of the wing is blind. Interior brick chimneys project from the west roof slope of the eastern wing.

The south elevation of the main block is pierced by one window with wide surrounds and an interior bead. A circular window with wide surrounds is located on the second floor. The gable end of the projecting eastern wing is pierced by a two-light window with wide surrounds on the first floor and by a two-over-two sash window

# 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 type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates**  Unknown **Builder/Architect**  Unknown

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.

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The property on which this house stands was originally part of "Great Mills Farm," the homestead of John J. Allston from the mid to late nineteenth century. In 1894, a portion of the farm was sold to John T. West. Following West's death, 865 acres of the farm was sold to Robert Callahan of Washington, D.C.

Robert Callahan owned the property until 1909. In that year, he sold it to Richard H. Cockerille of Prince George's County. Although the exact date of construction remains unclear, the house certainly stood on the site between 1909 and 1912. During that time, Richard Cockerille operated a dentist's office in the full basement.

In 1912, the Cockerille family sold off the house lot, being 1 3/4 acres of "Part of Great Mills," to J. Samuel and Florence Dyson. Cockerille's deed stipulated that the Dysons were not to erect a store on the property. The house then passed between a series of about six owners. Now vacant and overgrown, the house remains restoreable but its future is uncertain.



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St. Mary's County  
7.1 Description

with wide surrounds and an interior bead on the second floor. A louvered vent pierces the eave. A small one-story, gable roof addition projects from the first floor of this wing.

The east elevation of the southern wing is pierced by one two-over-two sash window with wide surrounds and an interior bead on the first and second floor. The gable end of the main block is pierced by two of these windows on the first and second floor. The eave is pierced by a circular vent. An exterior cinderblock chimney stands against the exterior wall of the main block. The northern wing is pierced by a door with an interior beaded surround on the first floor. The second floor is blind.

The interior consists of an asymmetrical plan. The northern entrance door opens into one large room. Extant woodwork consists of the plain baseboard with a molded crown and the door architraves. The architraves consist of an interior bead, a shallow torus molding, and an exterior cyma curve. Four-panel doors off of the main parlor open to the one room northern wing, to the one-room kitchen in the southern wing, and to a hall on the west side of the house. The stair to both the second floor and the basement is located out of view in this hallway. The open string stair provides access to both the basement and the second floor. The stair balustrade has been removed. A small room is located at the west end of the hall. The second floor was not seen.

One outbuilding is located on the property. Now used for storage, the one-story, gable roof structure has a cement pad floor and is sheathed with flush weatherboard siding and tar paper. It is roofed with asphalt shingles.

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St. Mary's County  
8.1 Significance

Chain of Title

TO: Robert E. Frazier, Jr., and Carole Ann Frazier

FROM: Barbara Thompson

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber EWA 894, folio 300.

DATE: May 12, 1994.

NOTES: Transfer of her 1/3 interest in the 151.174 acre tract "Part of Great Mills Farm" located on Flat Iron Road being the residue of the tract conveyed by Garner to Robert Thompson. Robert Thompson died in 1990.

TO: Robert H. and Barbara A. Thompson

FROM: John W. and Imogene Garner

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 81, folio 296.

DATE:

NOTES: Transfer of "Part of Great Mills Farm" being 260 acres, comprising all the cleared land on Great Mills Farm owned by Cockerille with certain exceptions.

TO: John W. and Imogene Garner

FROM: Philip H. Dorsey, Jr., and William O.E. Sterling

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 30, folio 306.

DATE: April 26, 1951.

NOTES: Transfer of 260 acres being "Part of Great Mills Farm."

TO: Philip H. Dorsey, Jr., and William O. E. Sterling

FROM: Eleanor G. Bruff and Florence Stone Wilhide, Trustees under the will of Philip H. Dorsey, Sr., deceased.

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JMM 9, folio 401.

DATE: April 14, 1951.

NOTES: Transfer of 260 acres being "Part of Great Mills Farm."

TO: Philip H. Dorsey, Sr.

FROM: Elizabeth T. Dorsey, widow, Annie B. Dorsey, Elizabeth D. Combs, Frank J. Combs, Philip H. Dorsey, Jr., and Dorothy S. Dorsey.

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JMM 9, folio 401.

DATE: February 1, 1936.

NOTES: Walter B. Dorsey died December 1923. Transfer of 260 acres being "Part of Great Mills Farm."

TO: Walter B. Dorsey

FROM: Richard H. Cockerille and Julie G. Cockerille

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber EBA 18, folio 464.

DATE: December 13, 1919.

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St. Mary's County  
8.2 Significance

NOTES: Transfer of "Great Mills Farm" being 260 acres, all the cleared land on Great Mills Farm owned by Richard Cockerille with certain exceptions.

TO: Richard H. Cockerille and Julia G. Cockerille of Prince George's County, MD.

FROM: Robert Callahan and Mary A. Callahan

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber EBA 8, folio 166.

DATE: November 15, 1909.

NOTES: Transfer of "Great Mills Farm" made up of various tracts being 700 acres and also "Part of Guither's Range" now being part of "Great Mills Farm" being 165 acres. The above property known as "Great Mills Farm" or "The Home Farm of the late John J. Allston" being 865 acres total.

TO: Robert Callahan of Washington, D.C.

FROM: William D. West of Washington, D.C., Trustee

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JYG 5, folio 130.

DATE: March 7, 1898.

NOTES: As per Circuit Court decree dated February 26, 1898, William West was appointed Trustee to transfer Leonard P. West's interest in 865 acres of "Great Mills Farm."

TO: Robert Callahan

FROM: R. Carrie West, widow, Mary E. Crampton and J. William Crampton, John T. West and Gertrude P. West, Henry P. West and Emma West, Charles E. West and Virginia A. West, William D. West and Katie P. West, Laura V. Beet and Alvin G. Beet.

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber JYG 5, folio 128.

DATE: March 7, 1898.

NOTES: Transfer of "Great Mills Farm" made up of a variety of tracts and being about 865 acres. Price: \$2500.

TO: John T. West

FROM: James F. Abell, mortgagee

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JYG 2, folio 386.

DATE: December 4, 1894.

NOTES: Public sale of "Great Mills Farm" as a result of J. J. Allston's default on a mortgage granted to Abell (JFF 12/3215). See Equity case 790, Decree Record JYG 1/359. Price: \$2650

TO: John J. Allston

FROM: James T. Cecil and May I. Cecil

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JAC 2, folio 199.

DATE: January 26, 1867.

NOTES: Transfer of part of "Gaither's Grange," 161 1/4 acres (JH 11/437); part of

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8.3 Significance

"Flower of the Forrest," 104 acres (JH 11/343); both being JH 13/199, the same being WTM 2/462 which Mary J. Cecil received via the estate of her father, McKelva Armsworthy. Price: \$1500

TO: John J. Allstan

FROM: Benjamin G. Harris, Trustee

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JTB 2, folio 450.

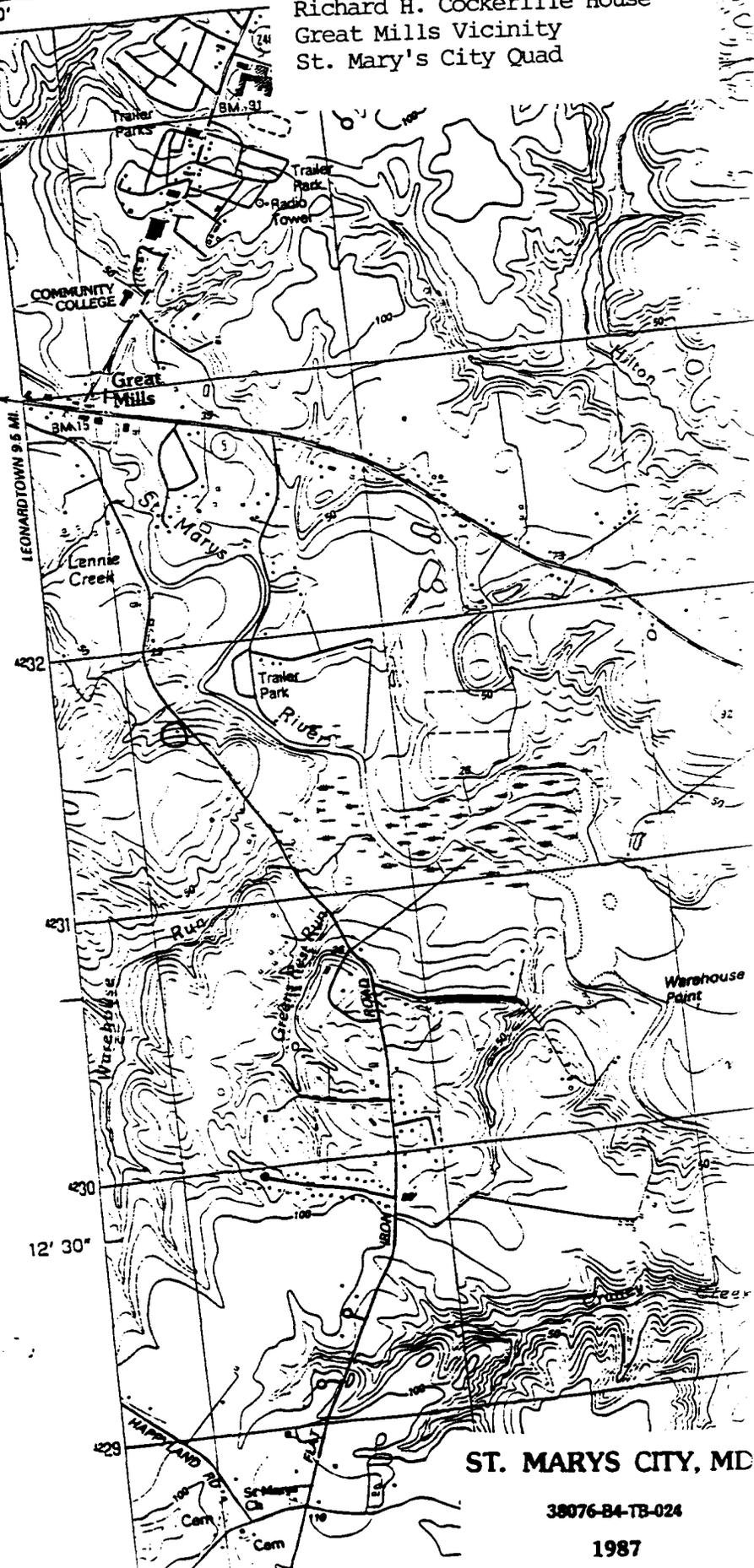
DATE: July 28, 1857.

NOTES: Sale of property as result of Circuit Court decree dated August 13, 1851 in the case of Sally A. Nuthall et al vs. B. G. Harris administrator of H. N. Kirk et al. Transfer of 700 acres of "Great Mills Farm" made up of various parcels.

SM 483  
Richard H. Cokerille House  
Great Mills Vicinity  
St. Mary's City Quad

76° 30'  
38° 15'

4234000 N



LEONARDTOWN 9.5 MI.

4232

4231

4230

12' 30"

4229

ST. MARYS CITY, MD

38076-B4-TB-024

1987



SM-483

Richard H. Cokerille House

St. Mary's County, MD

E. Hughes

11/94

MD SHPD

SW Elevation

1/1