

WO-69
Caerlaverock Farm
Snow Hill vicinity
private

c. 1850 and later

Construction of the mid nineteenth century farmhouse on the Caerlaverock farm is credited to James B. Robins, Sr., who acquired three tracts of land, "Caerlaverock," "Leeds," and "Common Garden" in November 1850. The Pocomoke River farm remained under James Robins's ownership until his death in 1868 when the property was inherited by his son, John L. Robins. The farm remained in Robins family hands until 1934 when Ethel T. Hargrove acquired title to the land. In 1941 the property changed hands once more when Harold E. and Jennie P. Nock purchased the farm from the Hargroves. The Nocks were responsible for the major rebuilding of the farm complex. More recently, Charles and Martha Nock Fulton have resided on the property. They decided to rework the farmhouse after they purchased the family farm in 1969.

The agricultural complex, situated on a high ridge of land northwest of the Pocomoke River, includes the mid nineteenth century farmhouse as well as early to mid twentieth century outbuildings. The two-and-a-half story farmhouse is notable for its mahogany stair and Greek Revival influenced mantels. The exterior is also distinguished with period features such as the corner pilasters and pedimented gable ends. Perhaps most significant architecturally are the two outbuildings that stand southeast of the house. Closer to the drive is a cross-gabled frame office, and next to it is a water tower. Both structures were erected around the turn of the twentieth century. The farm complex contains a group of mid twentieth century farm buildings as well.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: CARLAVEROCK FARM

MHT Inventory Number: WV-69

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

ARCHITECTURE
AGRICULTURE

2) Geographic Orientation:

EASTERN SHORE

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

AGRICULTURE - INDUSTRIAL TRANSITION
(1815-1920)

4) Resource Type(s):

1. STANDING STRUCTURES.

A. PLANTATION DWELLING.

2. OUTBUILDINGS -

A. OFFICE

B. WATER TOWER

C. BARN S

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. W0-69

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic NOCK FARM, JAMES B. ROBINS FARM

and/or common CAERLAVEROCK FARM

2. Location

street & number South side of MD Route 12 not for publicationcity, town Snow Hill vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Charles R. and Martha Nock Fulton

street & number Caerlaverock Farm telephone no.: 632-2421

city, town Snow Hill state and zip code MD 21863

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber 511

street & number Worcester County Courthouse folio 48

city, town Snow Hill state MD 21863

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historic Sites Inventory

date 1972 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state MD 21401

7. Description

Survey No. WO-69

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
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move _____

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

Caerlaverock farm, also commonly known as the Nock farm or the Robins farm, is located on the south side of MD Route 12 bordering Nassawango Road and the Pocomoke River. The main farmhouse and complex is located on a high ridge of land with the principal entrance lane intersecting MD Route 12. The farmhouse faces northeast with the main gable roof oriented on a northwest/southeast axis.

Built around 1850, the two-and-a-half story, five-bay center hall frame house is supported by a raised common bond brick foundation with a fully excavated cellar. The house has been covered with aluminum siding, and the steeply pitched roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story rear wing that forms an ell. Around 1970, the house was extensively remodeled. At that time the original interior end chimneys were replaced with exterior end stacks. Also a two-story, colossal columned portico was attached to the front of the house in place of the earlier porch. Accompanying the house is a collection of early to mid twentieth century outbuildings including a small office, a water tower, a large gambrel roofed barn, a smaller barn, a garage, a hanger, and a grain elevator.

The northeast (main) elevation of the farmhouse is a symmetrical five-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The replacement double doors are framed by four-light sidelights and a five-light transom. The windows have louvered shutters. Lighting the second floor are five evenly spaced windows hung with louvered shutters as well. The center second floor window features two-over-two sidelights. Piercing the foundation wall are three-pane windows that have louvered shutters also. The roof is marked by a pair of early twentieth century gabled dormers. Framing the house are corner pilasters that have been covered with aluminum.

The gable ends are dominated by exterior brick chimneys that rise through the pedimented gable ends. Six-over-six sash windows flanked by louvered shutters mark the first and second floors, while small two-over-two sash windows illuminate the attic within the pediment.

Covering a large part of the south side is the two-story, three-bay rear ell which is sheltered on the southeast side by a two-story partially enclosed porch. A new, exterior brick chimney stack rises against the south gable end. Six-over-six sash windows light the first and second floors. On the southeast side the porch has been filled in on the first floor and partially enclosed on the second. A section of open porch with a sawn baluster handrail is entered through a second floor door.

(continued)

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-69

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 checked="" 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

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.

Caerlaverock farm is an agricultural complex consisting of a mid nineteenth century dwelling and a group of late nineteenth and early twentieth century outbuildings situated northwest of Snow Hill. The two-and-a-half story farmhouse has been extensively reworked with the addition of a colossal columned front portico and new interior finishes. During 1970s renovation an effort was made to retain the stair and the original mantels. Perhaps most significant architecturally are the two outbuildings that stand southeast of the house. Closer to the drive is a cross-gabled office and next to it a water tower. Both structures were erected around the turn of the twentieth century. The property contains a complex of mid twentieth century farm buildings as well.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Construction of the mid-nineteenth century farmhouse on the Caerlaverock farm is credited to James B. Robins, Sr. who acquired three tracts of land, "Caerlaverock," "Leeds," and "Common Garden" in November 1850. (EDM 3/376) The Pocomoke River farm remained under James Robins's ownership until his death in 1868 when the property was inherited by his son, John L. Robins. The farm remained in Robins family hands until 1934 when Ethel T. Hargrove acquired title to the land.(BB 22/125) In 1941 the property changed hands once more when Harold E. and Jennie P. Nock purchased the farm from the Hargroves.(JEB 10/130) The Nocks were responsible for the major rebuilding of the farm buildings. More recently, Charles and Martha Nock Fulton have resided on the property. They decided to rework the farmhouse after they purchased the farm in 1969.(FWH 272/548)

CAERLAVEROCK FARM DESCRIPTION (continued)

The interior of the mid-nineteenth century farmhouse was remodeled in 1970, but care was taken to preserve the original stair and mantels. The heavily turned mahogany newel post and turned balusters support a molded handrail. The stringer is embellished with a scroll decoration. A six-panel door under the first stair landing opens into a modern bathroom.

The northwest parlor retains a mid nineteenth century mantel with fluted pilasters and a block frieze. The center tablet is highlighted by a sunburst medallion. A complex series of stepped moldings supports a thick mantel shelf. An identical mantel is fixed in the southeast front room.

The second floor and rear wing have been extensively reworked to the point where little of the original woodwork was maintained.

The earliest outbuildings on the property are two turn of the twentieth century structures that stand in the yard east of the house. A small square office building topped by cross gable roof is accompanied by a tall three-level water tower. Each structure is sheathed with vinyl siding and covered by green, wood shingle roofs.

The small office is a squarish frame building that faces northwest. The front elevation is marked by a partially glazed front door and flanking nine-over-one sash windows. The sides are pierced by nine-over-one sash windows as well, and an interior end stack rises through the southwest gable.

The water tower is supported by a low brick foundation, and a pyramidal wood shingle roof covers the three-story structure. A sliding garage door permits access to the first floor from the southwest side, and six-over-six sash windows pierce the sides. The second level tapers inward until it reaches the squarish housing for the water tank. The structure is covered by a pyramidal roof.

The other buildings on the property date from the 1940s and include a large gambrel roof barn (1942), a hanger (1948), and other buildings erected between 1944 and 1946. The most recent structure is a tall grain elevator erected in 1974.

WO-69
NOCK FARM
Chain of title

511/48 Charles R. Fulton, Martha Nock Fulton
to
2/26/1976 Charles R. Fulton, et. al.
"Caerlaverock Farm" or the "Robins Farm"
320 acres

F.W.H. 272/548 Elizabeth R. Warner, unmarried
to
12/31/1969 Charles R. Fulton
Martha Nock Fulton

F.W.H. 272/546 Charles R. Fulton
Martha Nock Fulton
to
12/31/1969 Elizabeth R. Warner

F.W.H. 272/543 Nennie P. Nock, widow and Jennie P. Nock
and Martha Nock Fulton, trustees under the
last will and testament of Harold E. Nock
(Will Book K.J.C. 29/16 9/27/1966)
to
12/31/1969 Charles R. Fulton
"Caerlaverock Farm" 320 acres

F.W.H. 177/253 Kathryn J. Corddry, trustee
to
1/1/1964 Harold E. Nock and Jennie P. Nock
1st item

WO-69
NOCK FARM
Chain of title

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J.E.B. 10/130

Ethel T. Hargrove
Ernest S. Hargrove

to

10/9/1941

Harold E. Nock
Jennie P. Nock

According to a survey made by William
D. Pitts 10/31/1941

"Caerlaverock" and being all the same
property which was conveyed unto the
said Ethel T. Hargrove by three deeds

1. from John S. Whaley, dated 12/26/1934
B.B. 22/125
2. from John W. Taylor, dated 10/19/1934,
B.B. 22/126
3. from Walter T. Onley, dated 12/5/1936,
B.B. 31/130

B.B. 22/125

John S. Whaley, trustee-case resulted
from defaulted mortgage

to

12/26/1934

Ethel T. Hargrove

O.D.C. 35/306

Julia M. Robins, James B. Robins and
Julia J. Robins, his wife

to

12/31/1919

Edward T. Taylor and William P. Robins

O.D.C. 13/162

Thomas M. Robins

to

1/10/1913

Julia M. Robins
James B. Robins
Part of farm

WO-69
NOCK FARM
Chain of title

Page 4

\$30,000 "Nutter's Neck" in Somerset
County, "Caerlaverock" and other lands
on the east side of Nasawango Creek
called "Choice" "Defiance Enlarged,"
"Dennis's Conclusion," being all the same
lands belonged to a certain John Dennis
and a certain James W. Dennis

RUTH T. DRYDEN, LAND RECORDS OF WORCESTER COUNTY 1666-1810

CARLAVEROCK

Patented on January 13, 1720 by Robert Martin for 200 acres
in Coulbournes District

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

1. STATE <i>Maryland</i> COUNTY <i>Worcester</i> TOWN <i>Shelburne</i> VICINITY STREET NO. <i>Rt 12 + Massawamy Rd</i> <i>(South)</i> ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE <i>Dwelling</i> PRESENT OWNER <i>Jennie P Nock</i> PRESENT USE <i>Dwelling - tenant</i> WALL CONSTRUCTION <i>frame</i> NO. OF STORIES <i>2 1/2</i>	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <i>WO-69</i> 2. NAME <i>Nock Farm</i> DATE OR PERIOD <i>c. 1840-60</i> STYLE <i>Creek Revival</i> ARCHITECT BUILDER 3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC <i>NO</i> <p style="text-align: center;">The Nock Farm house is like many buildings from the 1840-1860 period. It is built of frame, five bays long and two bays wide, two-and-a-half stories tall on a brick basement. There is a screened porch across the facade. The entrance has sidelights and transom and double door. A matching window on the second story corresponds to the door. At the corners of the building are pilasters which begin even in the brick basement. All sash is six over six and all windows have louvered shutters, even those in the basement. The "A" roof dormers have three over three sash and are very squat because of the gently sloping "A" roof. There is a brick chimney within each gable which has a very distinct flare in the upper courses of brick.</p> <p>5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered <i>NO</i> Interior Exterior <i>good</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(continued on reverse side)</p>	
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)	7. PHOTOGRAPH
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.	9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <i>Michael Bourne</i> <i>Maryland Historical Trust</i> DATE OF RECORD <i>Nov 1969</i>



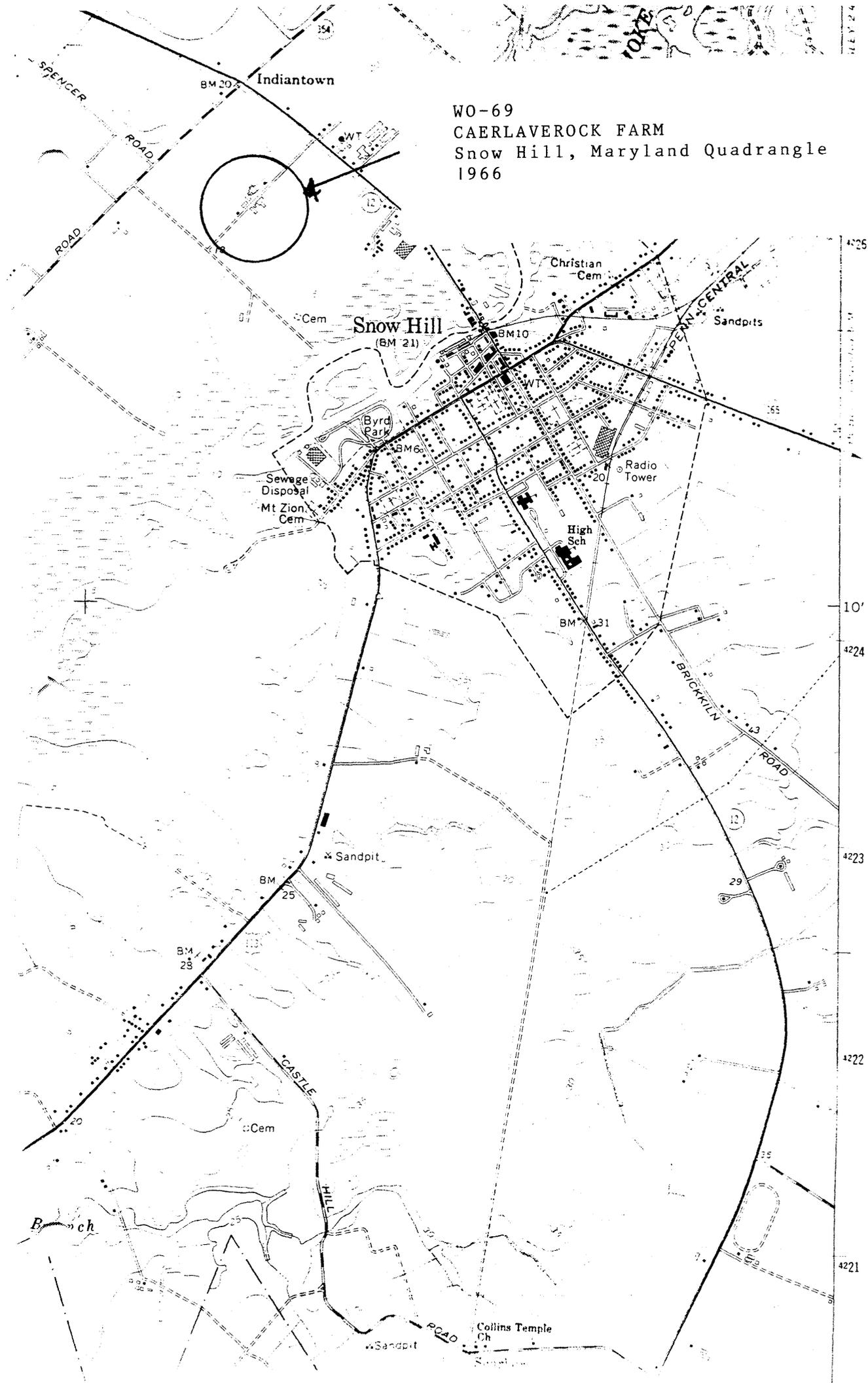
(continued)

Behind the building is a three-bay 'L' with a two-story porch. The upper gallery has a pierced-work balustrade in the Victorian manner.

The farm is very neat and a few lone tall pines tower above the house. There are several small outbuildings beside the house worthy of note.

WO-69
CAERLAVEROCK FARM
Snow Hill, Maryland Quadrangle
1966

SNOW HILL, MD
QUADRANGLE
1966



Nock Farm WO-69



Nock Farm

wo-69

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11/69

Michael BOURNE