

CAR-25  
Castlebury  
Ridgely  
Private

Circa 1780's

"The 400-acre tract on which the house stands is made up of parts of Coles Banks Enlarged, Castlebury, and Castle Town. The latter two tracts were re-surveys of older tracts. Parts of these lands were owned by Thomas Hardcastle, then by his sons Aaron and Matthew." (Horsey, E. F. Origins of Caroline Co., Vol. II)

The house built by the Hardcastles in the 1780's was a substantial brick dwelling, two stories in height, and three-bays long. In appearance, it was like Cedarhurst nearby; however, the early wing was removed in the 20th Century. It has a "hall and parlor" plan with good period woodwork in both rooms.

In the second half of the nineteenth century a large brick wing was added on to its west end which is unique not only in Caroline County, but also throughout the Eastern Shore. It has a three-story crenelated tower on an otherwise simple "townhouse" of the period, built at its juncture with the older portion of the house.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
Castlebury  
AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
East corner of the intersection of Holly Rd. & River Rd.  
CITY, TOWN  
Ridgely  
VICINITY OF  
First  
STATE  
Maryland  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
COUNTY  
Caroline

**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"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Frederick M. Gleockler  
Telephone #:  
STREET & NUMBER  
Rt. 1, Box 47-F  
CITY, TOWN  
Ridgely  
VICINITY OF  
Maryland 21660  
STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Caroline County Courthouse  
Liber #: 162  
Folio #: 641  
STREET & NUMBER  
Market Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Denton  
STATE  
Maryland 21629

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
DATE  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
CITY, TOWN  
STATE  
 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Castlebury is located on the east corner of the intersection of Holly Road and River Road, east of Ridgely, Caroline County. It is a Federal style house to which a tower and addition were added in the mid to late nineteenth century.

The original section of the house is of brick covered with stucco and painted white with green trim. It is three bays wide and one room deep with a central doorway and ~~one~~ over six pane sash windows on the first story and six over six pane sash windows on the second story on both the main facades. The cornice has shaped modillions and dentils. There are ~~exterior~~ end chimney stacks on both gable ends. One story frame porches are on both sides and on the exposed gable end.

The tower is three stories with tall narrow windows and a crenellated top. It is attached to the northwest gable end of the original section, but most of it protrudes from the main facade of the house.

The addition is two stories and two by two bays but of larger dimensions than the original section. It is constructed of stucco covered brick and has a hipped roof. The windows are two over two sash, and there is a wood bracket cornice. There are two chimney stacks on the northeast side of the addition.

The crenellated tower once contained a water tank and gravity-feed water line to a second floor bath tub.

Castlebury's interior is composed of a "hall and parlor" plan with the fireplace wall of the hall completely paneled with fielded raised panels and containing an enclosed stair in the northwest corner. The "parlor" is now used as a kitchen but retains original doors, trim, chair rail, and corner cupboard.

Connected to the west end of the house is the large late 19th century wing containing three rooms with plain woodwork. It's plan is like a townhouse with stair hall and two parlors, even though some alterations have been made for convenience.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**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 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Castlebury is a uniquely styled farmhouse in Caroline County. The property was first owned by the Hardcastle family who built the original section of the house in the late eighteenth century. The addition to the house was constructed in the mid to late nineteenth century and is a curious country interpretation of the villa style architecture popular in the U.S. at that time.

**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

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant, &amp; Joe Getty

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

February, 1977

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

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

Castlebury CAR-25  
Addenda Sheet  
August 4, 1999  
Michael Bourne  
Maryland Historical Trust

J.O.K. Walsh sought assistance from MHT in explaining the advantages of preservation to the owner of Castlebury Farm, who is a resident of Ohio and Florida. During the visit, several items were observed that had not been previously recorded.

Since the mid-1970s, the house has not been maintained. The front porch of the original section of the house has been pulled off and the side porch is in poor condition. With the removal of the porch, parts of wood rusticated jack arches are visible above the west window and the central door, which are similar to the jack arches of Frazier's Flats (Skillington's Right). Also visible from the section of removed roof is the original Flemish bond brickwork of the façade. The principle cornice is composed of modillions above a band of dentils with drill holes between. The second story window frames are original and retain their round sill returns. From the side porch, where the original kitchen was located, there is access to the basement near the northeast corner of the building. Due to the headroom required to access the basement from this level, the lower part of the corner cupboard in the "Parlor" is paneled rather than being fit with doors, a technique also used on a house in Queen Anne's County called Shepherd's Fortune. In the latter house, the cabinet is not a corner cupboard, but part of a wall of paneling.

The interior of the "Hall" has, beside the recorded wall of paneling, paneled dado, a two-piece cornice and splayed window jambs with Ovolo trim. The "Parlor" is still used as the kitchen and retains its original mantel with dog-ear trim and a band of dentils beneath the shelf. As stated above, the paneled corner cupboard is fit with doors above the level of the chair rail, but is paneled beneath due to the headroom required for cellar access.

The second story plan consists of a corridor at the head of the steps with a small room on the south and a larger room on the east side which was originally fit with a fireplace. Settlement in the building has caused a large gap between the door to the east room and its frame.

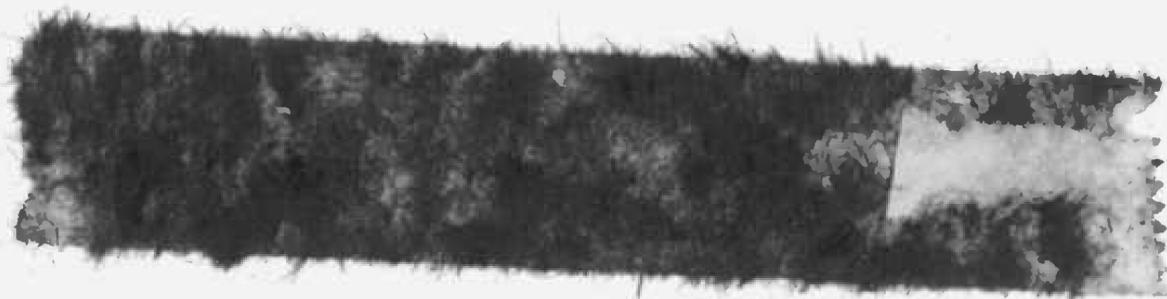
The 1880s section plan is recorded in the original inventory, but the second story plan was not mentioned. The stair, with its almost ante-bellum balustrade ascends in one flight to the second story. Between the hall and room within the "tower" is a plaster arch with decorative brackets. The same detail exists between the northwest bedroom and the space in the northeast corner of the second story.

At some distance north and slightly east of the house, in the field, is a family graveyard containing tombstones of Hardcastle family members from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. J.O.K. Walsh knows the history of some of those who are buried here.



CAR 25

Castlebury  
nr Ridgely



2/77

J. Getty