NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name The Lindens

other names/site number CH-49

2. Location

street & number State Route 488 N/A [ ] not for publication

city, town Bryantown [X] vicinity

state Maryland code MD county Charles code 017 zip code 20646

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
[X] private	[X] building(s)	1	3	buildings
[ ] public-local	[ ] district			sites
[ ] public-State	[ ] site		2	structures
[ ] public-Federal	[ ] structure			objects
	[ ] object	1	5	Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [XX] nomination [ ] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [XX] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official — Date 3/9/90

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

[ ] entered in the National Register.
[ ] See continuation sheet.

[ ] determined eligible for the National Register. [ ] See continuation sheet.

[ ] determined not eligible for the National Register.

[ ] removed from the National Register.

[ ] other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Function or Use

CH-49

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls wood

roof asphalt

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The Lindens is a second quarter nineteenth century Federal style frame house two stories high with a side passage, double parlor plan with Greek Revival mantels and an exterior double chimney with a two story flush pent at one end. Built on brick and fieldstone foundations enclosing a partial cellar, the exterior retains most of the original cladding of random width beaded clapboards on the northeast, southeast and southwest sides. Notable original interior details include a transverse arch in the lower stair passage supported by free-standing fluted columns, large folding doors between the dining room and front parlor, chairrails, bold window and door architraves with turned corner blocks, and Greek Revival style mantels typical of its date of construction. The main stair, rises in four flights to the attic and has simple, turned newels, and jigsaw patterned stepends whose distinctive design continues across the facias of the landings. About 1880 the house was enlarged by a two-story, one-bay wide addition to its southwest end. Also of frame construction, it is set back from the front wall of the main block and is of a slightly lower height. The exterior retains original sheathing of German siding, and its gable covering of round-end shingles. The windows of the front of the house were also enlarged at this time, and a semi-hipped roof porch with turned and tapered columns added to the rear elevation. A one story frame wing at the northeast end of the house was added in the early 1950s. It was about the time the northeast wing was built that the exterior chimneys were painted. Approached by a tree-lined drive, the house is fronted by two European linden trees believed to have been planted when the central section of the house was built and from which the property derives its name. The rear of the house overlooks the lower fields of the farm and the Zekiah Swamp. There are no other surviving early buildings. Non-historic structures include two small frame dependencies east of the house, two tobacco curing barns, and a farm tenement, all of which were built in this century.

[X] See continuation sheet for GENERAL DESCRIPTION

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Located on the south side of Maryland Route 488, approximately 1.7 miles southwest of its junction with Maryland Route 5, The Lindens was built in 1840 for John Francis Gardiner. A two-story, three-bay frame house, its architecture is a regional adaptation of the side passage, double parlor Federal style popularly built in this locality throughout the first half of the nineteenth century. At one end stands an exterior double chimney with a two-story flush pent, an especially characteristic feature of the domestic architecture of the lower southern Maryland counties. Built on brick and fieldstone foundations enclosing a partial cellar, the exterior retains most of its original cladding of random width beaded clapboards on its northeast, southeast and southwest sides. Notable original interior details include a transverse arch in the lower stair passage supported by free-standing fluted columns, large folding doors between the dining room and front parlor, chairrails, bold window and door architraves with turned corner blocks, and Greek Revival style mantels typical of its date of construction. The main stair, positioned at the southeast end of the hall, rises in four flights to the attic and features simple, turned newels, and jigsaw patterned stepends whose distinctive design continues across the facias of The Lindens. In about 1880 the house was enlarged by a two-story, one-bay wide addition to its southwest end. Also of frame construction, the addition is set back from the front wall of the main block and is of a slightly lower height. Its exterior retains its original sheathing of German siding, and its gable covering of round-end shingles. Alterations to the main block contemporary with the addition include extensions of its roof eaves on all sides and a shingle cross gable on the southeast side of the roof that frames an arched window with keystone and imposts surmounted by a dentiled pediment. The windows of the front of the house were also enlarged at this time, and a semi-hip roofed porch with turned and tapered columns added to the rear elevation. A one story frame wing at the northeast end of the house was added in the early 1950s to replace a previous two-story structure. It was about the time the northeast wing was built that the exterior chimneys were painted. The north chimney stack has a date brick inscribed "J. F. G. 1840" several courses above the stepped weathering.

Approached by a private, tree-lined drive, the house is fronted by two European linden trees believed to have been planted when the central section of the house was built and from which the property derives its name. The rear of the house overlooks the lower fields

See Continuation Sheet No 7.2

of the farm and the Zekiah Swamp. There are no other surviving early buildings. Non-historic structures include two small frame dependencies east of the house, two tobacco curing barns, and a farm tenement, all of which were built in this century. The southeast end of the property, bordering the Zekiah Swamp, is noted for encompassing an especially rich concentration of prehistoric artifacts, and is considered a contributing resource. The recorded history of the property indicates that it had been occupied by white settlers during Maryland's colonial period, but no discernable evidence of known or potential archeological sites survives above ground, although there is some suggestion that the foundations of the existing 1840 house remain from an earlier building.

The following building and site descriptions are keyed to the site plan on Continuation Sheet No. 7.6:

1. Main House - contributing

A three-part, clapboard frame structure, The Lindens represents three principal phases of construction, beginning as a two-story, three-bay building to which additions were made circa 1880 and circa 1950.

The central part of the existing house, erected in 1840 according to a date brick set in one of its exterior chimney stacks, was built on fieldstone and brick foundations. This masonry, which encloses a two-room cellar area below the two first floor rooms but which extend only partially into the area covered by the first floor passage, may remain from an earlier building, though the evidence supporting this theory is inconclusive. Oriented to face northwest, the most dominant exterior feature is a pair of exterior chimneys at one end that are joined at the first and second floor levels by a flush pent. The chimney stacks are built independent of the gable wall, and rise above single, elongated,stepped weatherings. In addition to the chimneys, now painted white, the building retains a significant amount of its original sheathing of random width beaded clapboards.

The interior of the 1840 structure remains essentially intact, including plastered walls, flooring, Greek Revival style mantels, door and window architraves and baseboards, as well as chairrails appropriate to its date of construction. The stair, positioned beyond a columned transverse arch bisecting the lower

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.3

passage, rises in four flights to the attic and features a rounded rail, simple turned and tapered newels, and jigsaw patterned stepends whose motif continues across the facias of the two landings. The first floor plan was repeated at the second floor and attic levels, but with an additional small room at the front of the stair passage. Toward the end of the 1800s a partition wall was built to provide a through passage between the two second floor bedrooms and the second floor rooms of a former northeast wing. The hall, and doors opening into the circa 1880 southwest wing, constitute the only alteration of the interior plan and appearance of the original house.

In about 1880 the house was enlarged by a shallow, one-bay wide addition to the southwest end. The wing, set back from the front wall of the main block and of a slightly lower height, retains its original sheathing of German siding and round end gable shingles and, on the interior, simple late Victorian style trim characteristic of its date of construction. Alterations made to the 1840 central block contemporary with the circa 1880 wing include a semi-hip roofed porch across the full width of the enlarged house, extensions of the roof eaves on all four sides, and a cross gable on the rear roof slope. Sheathed with round end shingles like the end gable of the wing, the cross gable frames an arched window with keystone and imposts surmounted by a dentiled pediment. Built on top of the original roof rafters, the cross gable had no physical effect on the interior of the building. It was also about this same time that the front windows of the house were lengthened and the exterior clapboards of this elevation replaced with siding matching that of the addition. The existing two-over-two and two-over-four pane sash of the front and rear windows were probably installed during this period as well.

It was about the time the southwest wing was built that a two-story addition of similar height and depth but of greater width was constructed at the northeast end of the 1840 house. The outline of this wing, which was removed when the house was renovated circa 1950, can be seen in the brickwork of the double chimneys and pent it once largely covered. The wing is said to have contained a kitchen and service rooms on the first floor, and storage and servants' rooms above.

In the early 1950s the main block and southwest wing were rehabilitated inside and out, though other than the installation of heat, wiring and plumbing, and the addition of a small, gable

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.4

roofed entrance porch, no significant changes were made; however, the northeast wing, which had suffered extensive physical deterioration, was removed and replaced by the existing one-story, two-bay wide frame kitchen addition. The exterior chimneys of the main block were then painted to reduce the visual impact of scars in the masonry surfaces remaining from the former wing.

2. Shed - non-contributing

A small, one-bay wide clapboard frame structure with a wood shingled pyramid roof. Circa 1950s.

3. Shed - non-contributing

Identical to #2 above, but built about a decade later.

4. Tobacco barn - non contributing

A tobacco curing barn constructed of sawn timbers, with vertical board siding and a metal clad gambrel roof. Early twentieth century (probably by 1915).

5. Tenement House - non contributing

A small, gable roofed, one-story dwelling of masonry and frame construction built in the mid-twentieth century as a farm tenant's residence.

6. Tobacco barn - non-contributing

A center aisle, timber framed tobacco curing barn similar to #4 above and of about the same age.

8. Statement of Significance

CH-49

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
Architecture	1840-1880	1840
		1880

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

One of Charles County's very few dated historic buildings, The Lindens is significant in a local context as an unusually late and architecturally distinctive example of the federal side passage, double parlor house style otherwise popularly built here during a period of relative economic prosperity in the first several decades of the nineteenth century. Its Greek Revival style interior woodwork is an especially notable and important feature, its quality being superior to that of most local houses built here between the 1830s and 1860. Other interior details of note include the stair and the unusual design of its fretwork decorations, the transverse arch of the lower passage, and the use of chairrails in combination with the bolder door and window architraves at a time when chairrails were no longer considered fashionable. Another significant architectural feature is the double exterior chimney and two-story brick pent. Chimneys of this design, while not uncommon to this section of Maryland, generally ceased to be built after about 1810. The alterations of circa 1880 enhance The Lindens' architectural significance. In Charles County, the half century following the Civil War were years of significant economic depression, and the local population declined to less than what it had been in the decade preceeding the Revolution. Very little building activity took place here in the 1860-1900 period, and there are extremely few extant structures whose architecture reflects the dramatic changes in design and function that occurred in more prosperous regions of the state and nation. The circa 1880 wing and the changes made to the 1840 house at that time, while fairly simple in concept, possess elements of design that are significant in their own right when viewed in that context.

☒ See continuation sheet for HISTORIC CONTEXT and MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA.

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Agriculture-Industrial Transition A. D. 1815-1870

Industrial Urban Dominance A. D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: buildings

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Uses: DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Known Design Source: none

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.2

HISTORIC CONTEXT: HISTORIC SETTING:

By 1840, the year the central part of The Lindens was built, Charles County was entering a period of slow economic decline that was in marked contrast to the relative prosperity, and growth, of the first three decades of that century. While nearly one-third of the county's inventoried historic buildings are contemporary with a regional "building boom" that occurred during the early nineteenth century, those dating from the circa 1835-1900 period are comparatively few, not only in number but in their level of architectural distinction as well. Of those houses built within that latter period, The Lindens is considered unique, not necessarily for its two-story, side passage, double parlor plan, which is well represented throughout the county, but for the unusually late date of its double chimney with two story pent--a combination of which ceased to be built locally after about 1810, its well above average interior woodwork, and the historical interest of its circa 1880 addition and alterations.

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.3

HISTORIC CONTEXT: RESOURCE HISTORY

The first several decades of the nineteenth century witnessed an improvement in economic conditions in southern Maryland, one result of which was a significant increase in building activity throughout the region as new homes were constructed and others renovated and enlarged. One of the most popular building forms to emerge during this period was the two-story, side passage, double parlor house based on the Adam style. Although a design visually better suited for an urban setting, it was clearly considered to be fashionably acceptable in a rural environment. The fact that more historic houses of this architecture survive in Charles and St. Mary's counties than any other attests to its extraordinary popularity.

When this style began to appear in Charles County, it often incorporated locally traditional features, such as a pair of exterior chimneys joined by a two-story flush pent, and interior ornamentations stylistically of an earlier period. Later, the design of such buildings assumed a much more straightforward and individualized form, and many of those built between about 1820 and 1840 are hardly distinguishable one from the other.

By the mid-1830s the great building boom of the previous decades began to rapidly decline as economic considerations became less favorable. While more than 35 examples of this architecture survive in Charles County, only six were built during the 1840-1860 period. Of these six only The Lindens reflects the carryover of traditional architectural features of a half-century earlier, and none of the others possess interior finishes of comparable calibre.

Viewed in this context, The Lindens is important as an altogether unique example of its architecture. Its overall form, above average interior woodwork, blend of traditional architectural features of an earlier period, and, of particular significance, its known date of construction, combine to provide a singularly valuable contribution to our knowledge and understanding of local architectural development during a critical phase in the county's socioeconomic history.

The Civil War brought an end to an agricultural system and social structure previously dependent on slave labor, resulting in a severely depressed local economy and an apathetic public attitude that endured throughout the balance of the century. The county's geographic isolation and stagnant economy served to maintain its sense of provincialism well into this century. As the building boom of the early nineteenth century reflected the relative prosperity of the 1810s, 20s and early 30s, conversely, a near absense of measurable building activity dramatized the hardships of the post-Civil War era.

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.4

Of the mere handful of private homes and public buildings erected between the mid-1860s and 1900, only one, Cedar Grove, is considered a noteworthy example of architectural trends that prevailed nationwide at that time.[1] Almost without exception, those homes that were built within this period were erected by those few countians who had managed to remain financially solvent, usually the result of professional occupations, political careers, or astute, pre-war investments in the industrialized north. Even so, these buildings, while reflecting then current concepts of form and function are pared down versions of designs popularized by architectural pattern books then widely available. Thus, given the conditions of the times, and what little representation otherwise exists, additions or alterations made to those equally few older, pre-war buildings such as The Lindens, when these changes reflect an obvious attempt at improvement according to then current tastes, can be accorded a level of significance all their own. At The Lindens, the broad cross gable and the unusual design of its arched and pedimented window, the shingled gables, overhanging eaves and other details contemporary with the circa 1880 addition, are of historical interest when viewed in that context.

The recorded history of the property begins with a tract of 1,000 acres granted to Major William Boarman in 1699. Patented as His Lordship's Favor, and a subdivision of the 8,800-acre Zekiah Manor lands reserved for colonial Maryland's lords proprietor, the 1,000 acres were conveyed by Boarman to Hugh Teares that same year.[2] Teares died within months of acquiring the property, leaving as heirs his widow, and a daughter by a previous marriage.[3] In 1705 a survey of division was made between the two women by which it was shown that the original patent description encompassed 250 acres more than the acreage named. This survey is of particular interest because the surveyor included on the plat a carefully drawn depiction of a house and several outbuildings standing on the part of the property then occupied by Teares' widow.[4]

Over the next 60 years the property was divided into a number of smaller parcels. By 1783 most of the higher lands that comprised the original tract were improved. That part of His Lordship's Favor of which The Lindens is a part was described in the tax assessment records of that year as having on it a "middling good dwelling house, barn, kitchen, quarter (and a young) orchard."[5] The foundations of the 1840 central portion of the existing house that appear to relate to a previous building on the same site, may be the foundations of the house referred to in 1783.

The means by which John Francis Gardiner acquired that part of His Lordship's Favor on which he built his house is not clear. His family, by purchase and through marriage, claimed ownership of several portions of His Lordship's Favor, as well as other contiguous lands, beginning in the early nineteenth century. It is therefore possible this particular acreage came into Gardiner's possession by inheritance. Another possibility is that it was through a lease-purchase arrangement. Although he is shown as "owner" of the property on an 1846 survey of a bordering tract owned by Richard Thompson, and which Gardiner purchased in 1857, he is not recorded as owning any real estate in the county's 1850 census.[6]

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.5

John Francis Gardiner was a younger son of John F. Gardiner, Sr., and at the time of the latter's death in 1832 was living on a 600-acre farm near Newport in the southeast section of the county. It appears likely that John was born at Truman's Place (NR), an important Charles County landmark built by John's grandfather, and the dwelling plantation of his father.

Gardiner died intestate in 1878. The inventory of his personal estate, in addition to livestock, growing crops of tobacco, wheat, corn and rye, and various farm equipment, itemized many of the household furnishings according to the rooms they occupied. The inventory names a passage, parlor, dining room and four bedrooms, and suggests as well that the house was then heated by stoves. No mention is made of additional rooms, or furnishings other than those whose locations were identified.[7]

Following Gardiner's death the property passed in ownership to his son, Francis D. Gardiner, who was undoubtedly responsible for building the additions and altering the facade and roof of the 1840 house. Francis lived there until his death in 1915. His personal estate, including stocks and bonds, growing crops of wheat, tobacco and rye, and cash on hand, totalled $7,232.06. The only item of furniture named was "one walnut table."[8]

In his will, Francis Gardiner made minor bequests of money to a niece and grandniece, but named as his residual heir his nephew Joseph D. Gardiner, to whom he left all his real estate, including "His Lordship's Favor, being the farm on which I now reside," and the 600-acre Newport property , "all to remain in the Gardiner family as long as profitable."[9] In 1949 Gardiner's widow and children sold 467 acres encompassing the house, of which 157 acres remain.[10]

The Zekiah, the largest hardwood swamp in Maryland and of unique ecological importance, is receiving considerable attention as a prehistoric archeological resource of considerable significance as well. However, few professional, site-specific surveys or studies have been yet undertaken within its 17,800-acre area, and there has been no identification made of those potential or known sites of greatest sensitivity. Interestingly, given the fact that the Zekiah, and the Wicomico River into which it empties, were the first areas of the county to be settled by English-speaking colonists, and that its adjacent lands encompass its highest concentration of known historic structures and archeological sites, only one bordering property, Timber Neck Farm, is currently listed in the National Register.

The Lindens, whose lower fields have yielded a remarkable number of prehistoric artifacts following each year's cultivation, bounds on the Zekiah, and is not far from the site of a fort erected in 1681 for the protection of local Indian tribes from the aggressive Senecas and Susquehannocks. Though other properties possessing comparable archeological potential exist in the same vicinity, many are currently being transformed into residential developments.

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.6

The identification of significant or potentially significant prehistoric archeological resources in this especially critical area is, at best, in its infancy. The integrity of known sites is being increasingly compromised by encroaching development, the probable archeological importance of the property should be recognized.

Footnotes:

1. Cedar Grove, also known as Evergreen Farm, is located in the National Register listed Bryantown Historic District.
2. Patents: Liber WD, f. 500.
3. Ibid.
4. Deeds: Liber B#2, f. 193.
5. 1783 Tax Assessments, Charles County, District 3, Land. (The property was then owned by Joseph Lancaster.)
6. Court Proceedings: WM#1, f. 241. Deeds: Liber JS#1, f. 476. Jack Brown, et al, Charles County, Maryland: A History (n.p.: Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976), p. 356.
7. Inventories: Liber 1869-1878, f. 453.
8. ibid., Liber
9. Wills: Liber CHP#19, f. 616.
10. Deeds: Liber PCM #88, f. 102.
11. Dennis Pogue and Michael Smolek, "An Archeological Resource Management Plan for the Southern Maryland Region," Maryland Historical Trust, 1985, p. 136. In discussing the Zekiah Swamp-Wicomico River area, the authors assert that "'with its adjacent terraces and uplands, [it] contains a remarkable array of archeological manifestations, a very high density of archeological sites, and a continuous occupation record from Paleo-Indian times through the early Historic period and later. Especially significant is evidence for substantial occupation there during the Early Archaic and Middle Archaic periods.'" Although many prehistoric sites in the Zekiah region are recorded, no professional determination of National Register eligibility has been made to date. This nomination evaluates the nineteenth century characteristics of the resource.

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.7

HISTORIC CONTEXT: RESOURCE ANALYSIS:

Built in 1840 for John Francis Gardiner and enlarged and modified circa 1880 by his son, Francis D. Gardiner, The Lindens is a two-story, three-bay, side passage-double parlor farmhouse representing a local interpretation of the Adam or "Federal" style commonly built in this locality throughout the first half of the nineteenth century. While the basic design and plan of the 1840 house--now the central portion of a three-part structure--is fairly typical of other local examples, it possesses several unusual features that distinguish it from others built during the second quarter of the century. Of particular significance is its double chimney with a two-story pent. While other houses of this architecture having chimneys of similar design are known to have been built in this area, the combination had clearly become unfashionable after the end of the first decade of the nineteenth century. Only two out of six known local examples survive, Timber Neck Farm (MHT:CH-297; NR) and Mt. Air (MHT:CH-65; NR), the former built in the 1790s and the latter circa 1806. Mt. Air's chimneys were extensively altered in this century, and Timber Neck is now in deteriorated condition. Thus, not only are the chimneys of The Lindens unique for their 1840 date of construction, but they are a rare surviving example of their form in this locality. The 1840s portion of the house is also of historical architectural interest for the quality of its Greek Revival style interior woodwork, which is far superior to any other interior work of this same basic style in the county. This in spite of the fact that several of the county's National Register listed buildings (Maxwell Hall, LaGrange and Truman's Place) were extensively renovated on their interiors during the same period and in the same taste, as were other less important houses. Among other interesting interior details, the fully columned transverse arch of the lower passage is particularly noteworthy. While pilastered passage arches were frequently used in conjunction with this architectural type, they are found with less frequency in houses built after about 1820 and, with this one known exception, ceased in use altogether in this area after about the mid-1830s. Besides being of an unusually late date, the design of this particular example is altogether locally unique.

The Lindens was built during Maryland's period of Agricultural-Industrial transition (1815-1870), a phase in the historical development of the state that resulted in considerable change to less isolated counties but which had little impact on lower southern Maryland. By the early 1840s the more prosperous decades of the early part of the century had given way to a general economic decline. The impact of the Civil War on the local economy was particularly disastrous, and Charles County retreated into a period of economic stagnation and social provincialism lasting more than fifty years. Today, this is reflected in its near complete absence of noteworthy buildings dating from the late Victorian period in American architectural history, a fact that lends a measurable degree of significance to those few representa-

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.8.

tions of popular forms of architectural style, decoration and spatial function that appeared elsewhere during the second half of the nineteenth century. Though some changes were made to The Lindens in the 1880s this did not significantly impact on the integrity of the 1840 house, since little alteration of the original fabric actually took place. The design of the wing, the lengthening of the front windows, the eaves extensions and the cross gable are, in fact, of historical and architectural value given their original context of time and place.

Aside from modern amenities, and a new wing to replace a larger structure in the same location that had deteriorated beyond repair, no alterations were made to the house as part of the 1950 renovation, work that followed several decades of its occupancy and abuse by tenants. Though the chimneys were painted to camouflage previous damages to areas of its masonry this is not without local historical precedence, nor irreversible.

An additional aspect of historical importance associated with The Lindens is its two European linden trees directly in front of the 1840 central section of the house, and traditionally said to have been planted when the carpentry work was completed. These, together with a similar planting of trees at Linden (NR) and the early boxwood maze at Rose Hill (NR), constitute the only historic landscape features currently known to exist in Charles County.

Augmenting the significance of The Lindens is the likely existance of historical archeological features associated with the seventeenth and eighteenth century history of the property, and the known presence of a potentially highly significant prehistoric archeological site at the southeast end of the property, which has yielded artifacts dating as early as the middle Archaic period and possibly older. In Charles County, historic and prehistoric archeological sites have not yet been accorded the same attention typically given standing structure, and as a result many of the county's most important archeological resources are being destroyed or their integrity severely diminished in the face of its current rapid transformation from a rural agrarian landscape to that of urban suburban. It is extremely important that properties encompassing known or probable sites of potential archeolgical significance be recognized.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See endnotes for Section 8.

[XX] See continuation sheet No. 8.6

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- [ ] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- [ ] previously listed in the National Register
- [ ] previously determined eligible by the National Register
- [ ] designated a National Historic Landmark
- [ ] recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- [ ] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- [XX] State historic preservation office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [ ] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 158 acres

USGS quads La Plata, MD and Hughesville, MD

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	18	336600	4269250
B	18	336920	4267890
C	18	365200	4267780
D	18	361800	4269100

[ ] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries are delineated on the Site Plan and Boundary Map.

[XX] See continuation sheet No. 7.6

Boundary Justification

[XX] See continuation sheet No. 10.1

11. Form Prepared By

name/title J. Richard Rivoire
organization Historical Architectural Consultant date August 1989
street & number Post Office Box 132 telephone (301) 932-1000
city or town La Plata state Maryland zip code 20646

★U.S.GPO:1988-0-223-918

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The boundaries are drawn to include the historic resources and maintain a setting historically associated with the property. The property is bordered on the east and west sides by land that historically was connected with The Lindens primarily as agricultural land but years ago was separated from The Lindens property. The Zekiah Swamp to the south is a natural border which defines land use and affects the environment and setting of the resource. The land also includes those areas which might contain archeological finds which would shed further light upon the use of the property during the period of significance.

CH 49

Form 10-300
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

N. R. FIELD SHEET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: THE LINDENS

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: E. SIDE OF RTE 488 FROM LAPLATA

CITY OR TOWN: LAPLATA

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
MD.		CHAS.	

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District ☐ Building ☑	Public ☐	Public Acquisition:	Occupied ☑	Yes:
Site ☐ Structure ☐	Private ☑	In Process ☐	Unoccupied ☐	Restricted ☐
Object ☐	Both ☐	Being Considered ☐	Preservation work in progress ☐	Unrestricted ☐
				No: ☑

PRESENT USE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

Agricultural ☐	Government ☐	Park ☐	Transportation ☐	Comments ☐
Commercial ☐	Industrial ☐	Private Residence ☑	Other *(Specify)* ☐	
Educational ☐	Military ☐	Religious ☐		
Entertainment ☐	Museum ☐	Scientific ☐		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: D. H. STEFFANS (DIETRICH H. STEFFANS)

STREET AND NUMBER: THE LINDENS

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
LAPLATA	MD.	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: CHAS. CO.

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
LAPLATA	MD.	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local ☐

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE

STATE: COUNTY:

FOR NPS USE ONLY: ENTRY NUMBER DATE

CH-49

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One) Excellent ☐ Good ☑ Foir ☐ Deterioroted ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed ☐	
INTEGRITY	(Check One) Altered ☐ Unoltered ☑	(Check One) Moved ☐ Originol Site ☑

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(if known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

E SIDE 488, FACES W ROOF "A" plan THE RIDGE RUNNING N-S WITH 2 DBLE. CHIMNEYS & 2 STOREY PENT BETWEEN.

MAIN BLOCK 3 BAYS WITH DOOR (C SUNBURST FANLIGHT) AT S END. A ONE STOREY FRAME WING TO N GABLE 2 BAYS. 1ST. FLOOR WINDOWS FULL LENGTH.

Built by Gardiner family

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

CH-49

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

Pre-Columbian ☐	16th Century ☐	18th Century ☐	20th Century ☐
15th Century ☐	17th Century ☐	19th Century ☑ CA. 1830	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)*

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

Aboriginal	Education ☐	Politicol ☐	Urban Planning ☐
Prehistoric ☐	Engineering ☐	Religion/Philosophy ☐	Other *(Specify)* ☐
Historic ☐	Industry ☐	Science ☐	_____
Agriculture ☐	Invention ☐	Sculpture ☐	_____
Art ☐	Landscape Architecture ☐	Social/Humanitarian ☐	_____
Commerce ☐	Literature ☐	Theater ☐	_____
Communications ☐	Military ☐	Transportation ☐	_____
Conservation ☐	Music ☐		_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

CH-49

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY									OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE					
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE						LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds				Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"				°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"									
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"									
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"									

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

ORGANIZATION | DATE

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: | STATE | CODE

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

_____
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

_____
Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

FORM NO 10-300 REV. 10-74

MAP # 090049-404

CH-49

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
His Lordship's Favor; Fertile Meadows; Howell Farm; The Lindens

AND/OR COMMON
The Lindens (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER East side Maryland Route 488, 1 mile north of its intersection with Piney Church Road __NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Bryantown X VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT First

STATE Maryland CODE 24

COUNTY Charles CODE 017

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	X AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		X NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Dietrich H. Steffens

STREET & NUMBER
The Lindens

CITY, TOWN
La Plata __ VICINITY OF

STATE Maryland 20646

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Charles County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Charles Street

CITY, TOWN
La Plata

STATE Maryland 20646

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CH-49

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Lindens is situated on the east side of Maryland Route 488, about 1-1/2 miles south of the junction of Route 488 and Maryland Route 5, and approximately 2-1/2 miles south-southwest of the village of Bryantown, Charles County. The house is approached by a private drive about two-tenths of a mile in length. The property, roughly rectangular in shape and encompassing 157 acres, is about equally divided between meadow land, woodland, and cultivated fields. Improvement. in addition to the main house, include brick entrance gates at the head of the drive, white board fencing the length of the drive, a small tenant house (circa 1900) south of the drive, a post-1880 tobacco barn about 300 feet northeast of the house, and two new pyramid-roofed sheds, a swimming pool, and tennis court to the rear of the house. The house is situated in about the center of the 157 acres and is fronted by two magnificent European Linden trees from which this attractive and well maintained property takes its name.

The Lindens is a three-part frame house that possesses several interesting architectural features. It evolved to its present plan through a series of additions and renovations spanning the years 1840 to circa 1955; however, there are some features, principally relating to the cellar and foundation walls, that suggest the house was built on the site of an earlier structure.

The oldest part of the existing house (excluding the cellar and foundation walls) is the two-story central block. Built circa 1840, it is of late Federal architectural styling. The principal facade, facing west and sheathed with German or "novelty" siding, is three bays wide. The entrance door is framed by sidelights and an elliptical fanlight, an appropriately styled modern replacement of an earlier Victorian doorway that itself had replaced the original. The doorway is fronted by a small pedimented porch with round, tapered posts. It too is a modern replacement, succeeding a Victorian porch that once extended the width of this elevation.

The two existing first floor windows, of two-over-two pane sash, are full length, later 19th century replacements of the originals. The three second floor windows frame later two-over-two sash, but are believed to be early if not original. During the mid-19th century, probably circa 1855-70, a cross gable was built on the front slope of the roof. According to the present owners who removed it during a 1950s renovation of the house, it matched an existing cross gable on the opposite side. The east elevation has a one-story porch with round, tapered columns. The shed roof of the porch extends across the full width of the main block, but has a pedimented section where it fronts the south wing. To the right of the entrance door of the main block is a three-sided bay window, a circa 1855-70 replacement of two earlier windows.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The cross gable of the roof is very attractive, sheathed with fish-scale shingles and featuring a handsome arched window with foliated upper sash. Framing this window is a dentiled pediment with paneled pilasters; there is a molded keystone on the arch of the window. (A matching window that was centered in the former cross gable of the west side has been preserved by the present owners.) The roof was extended at the ends to project out over the gables by about 12 inches around the time the cross gables were added (circa 1860-80).

The north and south elevations of the main block are the only ones to retain some of their overall original appearance. Although most of the south end is covered by a two-story addition, it still has its early beaded board siding and one of its formerly two six-over-six gable windows. The north end is also partially covered by a later wing. In addition to it beaded siding it has two six-over-six windows centered in the gable between the two chimney stacks. The chimney, like the house, has experienced various alterations. Now painted white, it has free standing stacks above single stepped shoulders and a two story pent with shed roof. The pent once had windows lighting its interior closets at both floor levels. In later years doors were cut through the back wall of the pent to provide access between the house and wing.

Of the two existing wings, the south wing is oldest. Believed to have been built circa 1880, it is one bay wide on the east and west sides and has a double unit window centered on the first floor level of the south end and two separate windows above. All windows frame sash of two-over-two panes. In the south gable is a small arched window considerably less ornamental than that in the east cross gable of the main block. Like the east gable, the south gable is covered with round-end shingles.

The north wing is of frame construction, one story in height with a steeply pitched gable roof. It was built in the 1950s to replace an earlier two-story wing and is sheathed on the exterior with German or "novelty" siding. The west side has two windows of six-over-six pane sash. The east side is also two bays, with a door occupying the bay closet to the north end. Toward the south end of this elevation is a small shed enclosing a cellar entrance. The north end of the wing is also two bays with a door in the bay closest to the northwest corner and a double unit window in the other. The wing that the present one replaced was built after the main block, perhaps circa 1860-80 when the main block was extensively renovated.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The interior of the Lindens poses several questions with few conclusiv answers. The earliest woodwork dates no earlier than about 1840-50, making it difficult to support the traditional 1830 construction date of the house based solely on the interior woodwork. However, it is possible that the interior of the house was completely renovated during the 1840-50 period as at Timber Neck Farm in the same county, leaving all evidence of the change behind the new plaster and trim. The style of the north chimney and some so far unexplained irregularities in the foundation walls suggest that this is a possibility. In addition, the foundation walls, which are of common ironstone below grade and brick above and enclose two rooms that partially extend into the area of the first floor hall, appear to have been extensively reworked, including the addition of several courses of brick below the sills. The area of the chimney base also lacks the arched support niches so typical of this region and period. Although there is no conclusive supporting evidence, some aspects of the masonry suggest that the existing house mighthave been built on the foundations of an earlier structure.

Like the exterior the interior of the main block of the Lindens represents several periods in its development, containing mid and late-19th century details. It possesses several interesting features of that era, most notable a simple transverse arch in the hall composed of a molded eliptical arch "supported" by round fluted columns and the main stair. The latter is of a very attractive design, rising in four flights to the attic at the east end of the hall, and has decorative, jigsaw patterned spandrels and a handrail that terminates in a spiral at the foot of the stair. The detailing of the stair balustrade and the transverse arch are distinctly mid-19th century but their overall plans are based on popular motifs of the Georgian and early Federal periods.

Early circa 1840 trim includes molded one-piece surrounds with turned corner blocks framing six-panel doors. This trim is very similar in profil to that seen at Yatten and Locust Grove, two other late Federal houses in Charles County. On the north side of the stair hall are double parlors connected by a large four-leaf door, a typical Federal Period feature. Later additions-alterations to these rooms include the extension of the two west windows to the floor, the replacement of two east windows with a projecting floor to ceiling bay window, and the possible replacement of the two mantels. All of these changes appear to have occurred circa 1850-80. The two matching parlor mantels, said to be replacements of earlier ones of Federal styling, but which in fact are not inappropriate to the 1840s, have turned columns supporting a molded frieze below a shallow

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3.

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

cornice shelf. At each end of the frieze is a shaped bracket and between them is a shaped raised panel. All three rooms have simple, two-piece chairrail.

On the second floor of the main block are two bedrooms and a small roo at the front of the hall, the latter converted for use as a bathroom. The northwest bedroom was initially the size of the northeast room, but was made smaller when a partition was installed to provide a hall giving access to the second floor of the older north wing. All of the woodwork in these rooms is of fairly simple design and of one piece. The mantels are near duplicates of the two first floor parlor mantels except that they lack the raised middle panel. In the attic are three small bedrooms, all fully plastered and with simple woodwork. These rooms were probably installed at the same time as the front and rear cross gables.

The south wing contains one first floor room with simple one-piece trim and vertical board wainscoting. There was originally just one second floor room but this was partitioned into the present two rooms in the 1950s. The north wing contains a large kitchen and an informal dining room. The frame wing it replaced had several first floor rooms, principall a kitchen and service rooms, with about four bedrooms above; the latter, because of their reported size, were probably used for servants and storage The outline of the roof of the former wing can still be seen on the back wall of the chimney of the main block.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

CH-49

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
X 1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X 1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES circa 1840 BUILDER/ARCHITECT John F. Gardiner

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lindens is one of Charles County's better known landmarks, largely due to its visibility, the attractiveness of the house and grounds, and its association with several of the area's oldest and most prominent families.

The history of the property is a complicated one, involving numerous land transactions and intermarriages between the various families who owned it. Nevertheless, it has been established that the Lindens was originally part of "His Lordship's Favour," a tract of land granted in the late seventeenth century to Major William Boarman. Boarman, evidently one of the regions more prominent early colonial figures, accumulated tens of thousands of acres throughout Charles County. His holdings in the immediate vicinity included 3,333-acre Boarman's Manor, granted to him in 1676 and located on the opposite side of Zachia Creek from His Lordship's Favour. It is on Boarman's Manor that he is believed to have lived and on which the village of Bryantown and St. Mary's Catholic Church were later established. Boarman, a highly visible Catholic even during Catholicism's darkest days in provincial Maryland, was instrumental in founding the Catholic parish and church here. His descendants still living in the area, some on lands owned by the family since the seventeenth century, continue to make up a large percentage of its present membership. Boarman directed the building of the predecessor of the existing eighteenth century brick church in 1696, described as a log structure 30 feet in length and located on Boarman's Manor, and provided for its maintenance in his will.

Major Boarman made his initial request for the 1,000 acres of His Lordship's Favour in 1697. Its verbal boundaries were recorded and the patent issued in 1699. In the same year Boarman transfered ownership of the land to Hugh Teares. Teares died shortly afterwards, leaving His Lordship's Favour to be equally divided between his wife, Elinor, whom he had married just six months before his death, and Elizabeth, his daughter by a previous marriage. Elinor Teares,before her marriage to Hugh, was the widow of John Stone III. Her father, Walter Beane of Wicomico, Charles County, was a wealthy landowner instrumental in establishing the first known organized Presbyterian congregation in the United States. Beane died in 1670 when Elinor was not yet a year old, bequeathing to her a grant of 750 acres in Charles County called Durham, that he had received in 1666. Elizabeth Teares was the daughter of Hugh Teares by his first wife, Ruth Wine, who died in 1695.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #4.

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

On June 22, 1700 Elinor Teares married John Beale. Five years later a formal division of His Lordship's Favour was made between Elinor Beale and Elizabeth Teares. A survey of the property made at the time showed His Lordship's Favour to actually contain 1,250 acres instead of the 1,000 acres given in the patent description. In the division Elinor and John Beale received the northern half of the property and Elizabeth the southern portion. The 1705 survey of division is a particularly valuable document in that it features a rare sketch of the house John and Elinor Beale were residing in at the time, as well as several of the dependencies that surrounded it.

Elinor Beale died before 1720, and by 1723 her husband was residing on Durham, which until then had been involved in length litigation. It was here that John Beale built the oldest part of the house known today as "Linden," another Charles County nomination to the National Register. In 1724 John Beale exchanged his rights to one-half of His Lordship's Favour (625 acres) with his son, Richard Beale, for Richard's rights of inheritance to Durham.

In 1724 Richard Beale sold 300 acres of His Lordship's Favour to William Middleton, husband of Elizabeth Teares. The remaining half of the 625 acres he sold in 1728 to John Ebernethy, "inn keeper." By this year Richard Beale had moved to Essex County, Virginia. William and Elizabeth Middleton were living on Elizabeth's portion of the original tract, and John Ebernethy established his residence on his portion of His Lordship's Favour within a short time of its purchase.

John Ebernethy died in about 1733, and in 1734 his heirs sold the lands he had acquired from Richard Beale to William and Elizabeth Middleton. The Middletons evidently moved onto the Ebernethy tract, for by this time they had sold most of their portions of His Lordship's Favour to Elizabeth (Teares) Middleton's step-brothers, Henry and Josias Hawkins, who included it in their extensive holdings, immediately proximate to His Lordship's Favour known as "Faire Fountaine" and "Goat's Lodge."

In 1738 Middleton sold 450 acres located in the central area of His Lordship's Favour to Captain Joseph Lancaster. The 1783 tax assessment lists Joseph Lancaster (probably the son of Captain Lancaster) as the owner of 601 acres of His Lordship's Favour, improved by "1 middling good dwelling house," various dependencies, and young apple and peach orchards.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #5.

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

It has not been determined by what means Lancaster became owner of the additional 152 acres. It is also not known whether Lancaster actually lived on the property. A member of a prominent local family, he was part owner of thousands of acres of land in the southeast section of the county, an area where his descendants continue to reside. Several land transactions involving these holdings indicate he lived in that area. It is possible, however, that the "middling good dwelling" listed in the 1783 assessment was built by Captain Lancaster and might have been the predecessor of the existing house if, in fact, the foundations are older than the present house (see description).

In 1806 Joseph Lancaster, Jr. sold the 450 acres of His Lordship's Favour to Clement McWilliams. McWilliams and his family resided on the property until 1810 when they moved to St. Mary's County and sold it to John Baptist Thompson. Thompson, through his relation with the Boarman family and by purchase, owned various contiguous properties, including 150 acres of His Lordship's Favour purchased in 1790 from William Tyler. (Tyler was a son of Benjamin Tyler and Elizabeth Middleton and a grandson of William and Elizabeth Teares Middleton.) Thompson had also acquired two smaller parts of His Lordship's Favour in 1795 from Eleanor Miles.

John B. Thompson died intestate in about 1820, leaving as heir his son, Richard A. Thompson. Richard Thompson died in about 1840, also intestate, leaving four minor children as heirs. For almost a decade following his death, the property was involved in litigation resulting from the somewhat irregular attempts by Aloysius Bowling, a Thompson relative by marriage, to gain ownership of the property. Eventually the case was settled and Bowling assumed ownership. By 1856 the then remaining acres were purchased from the estate of Aloysius Bowling by John Francis Gardiner. Gardiner had already purchased several parts of His Lordship's Favour from the two Thompson estates and is given as the owner of lands immediately south of Richard Thompson in an 1846 survey. It was undoubtedly John F. Gardiner who built the house known today as the Lindens. The property remained in the Gardiner family until 1949 when it was acquired by its present owners.

Today, the Lindens is an important physical link to the early history of the area, joining present generations of the Boarman, Middleton, Hawkins, Thompson, and Gardiner families still living in the county to their individual and combined heritages. The house as built by John F. Gardiner, and enlarged and remodeled by later generations of that family, is of additional importance as one of the latest surviving examples of

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #6.

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

Federal architecture in Charles County. Its interior is particularly interesting, reflecting a rather individualistic interpretation and incorporation of earlier interior treatments with motifs with then current tastes in decoration. The most striking examples of this are the main stair and the transverse arch of the hall. It is also one of the very few buildings of its size and relative refinement to be built here between 1840 and 1880, a period when Charles County suffered severe economic depression and during which building activity had all but ceased.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CH-49

Linden: A History. Unpublished research manuscript. J. Richard Rivoir, 1977.
Land and Probate Records, Charles County Courthouse, La Plata, Maryland.
1783 tax assessments; probate records, Hall of Records, Annapolis.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 157 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME _____ QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property described in Charles County deed 88/102.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
J. Richard Rivoire

ORGANIZATION

DATE
September, 1978

STREET & NUMBER
P. O. Box 132

TELEPHONE
(301) 645-1144

CITY OR TOWN
La Plata

STATE
Maryland 20646

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER DATE

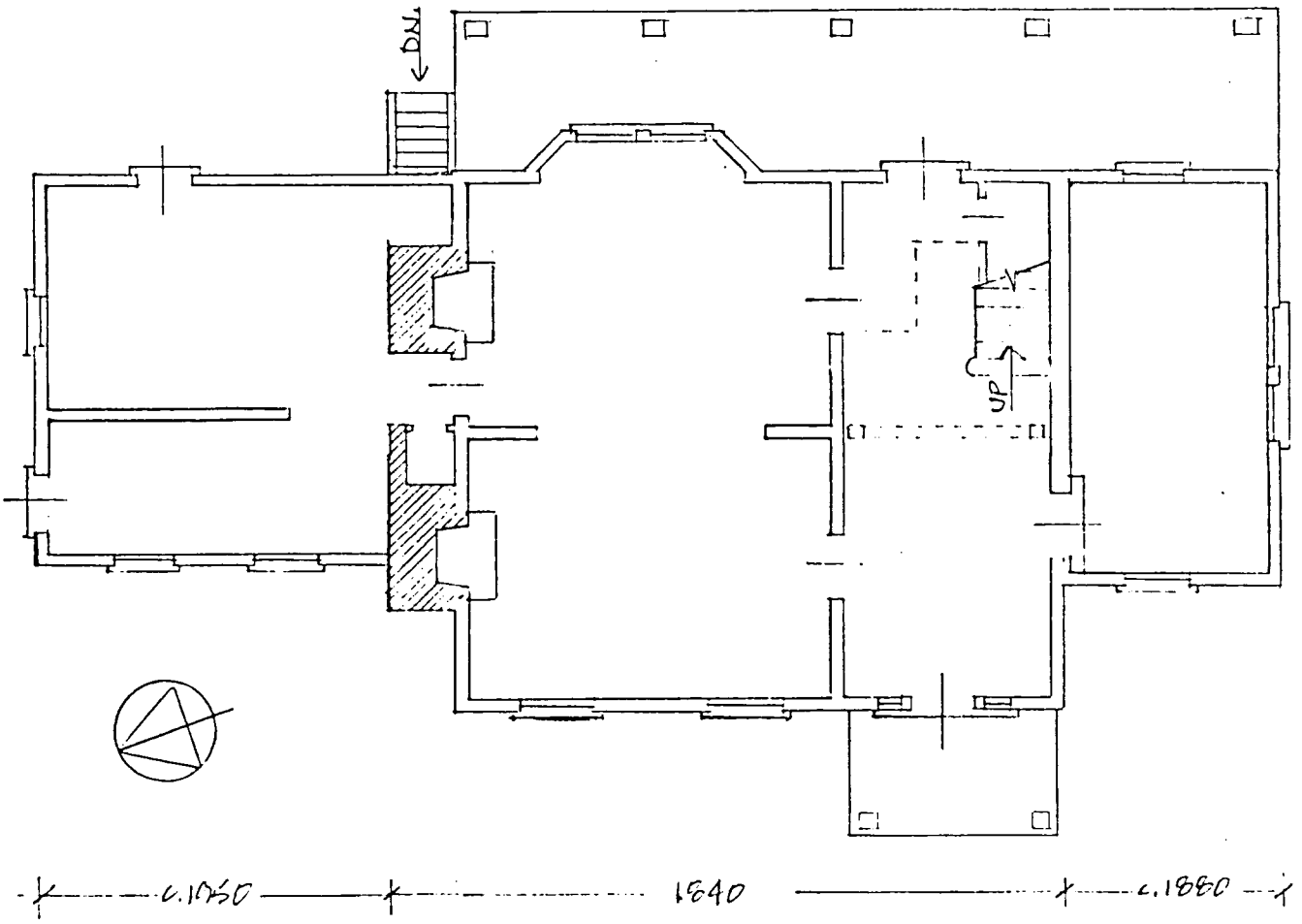
FOR NPS USE ONLY
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

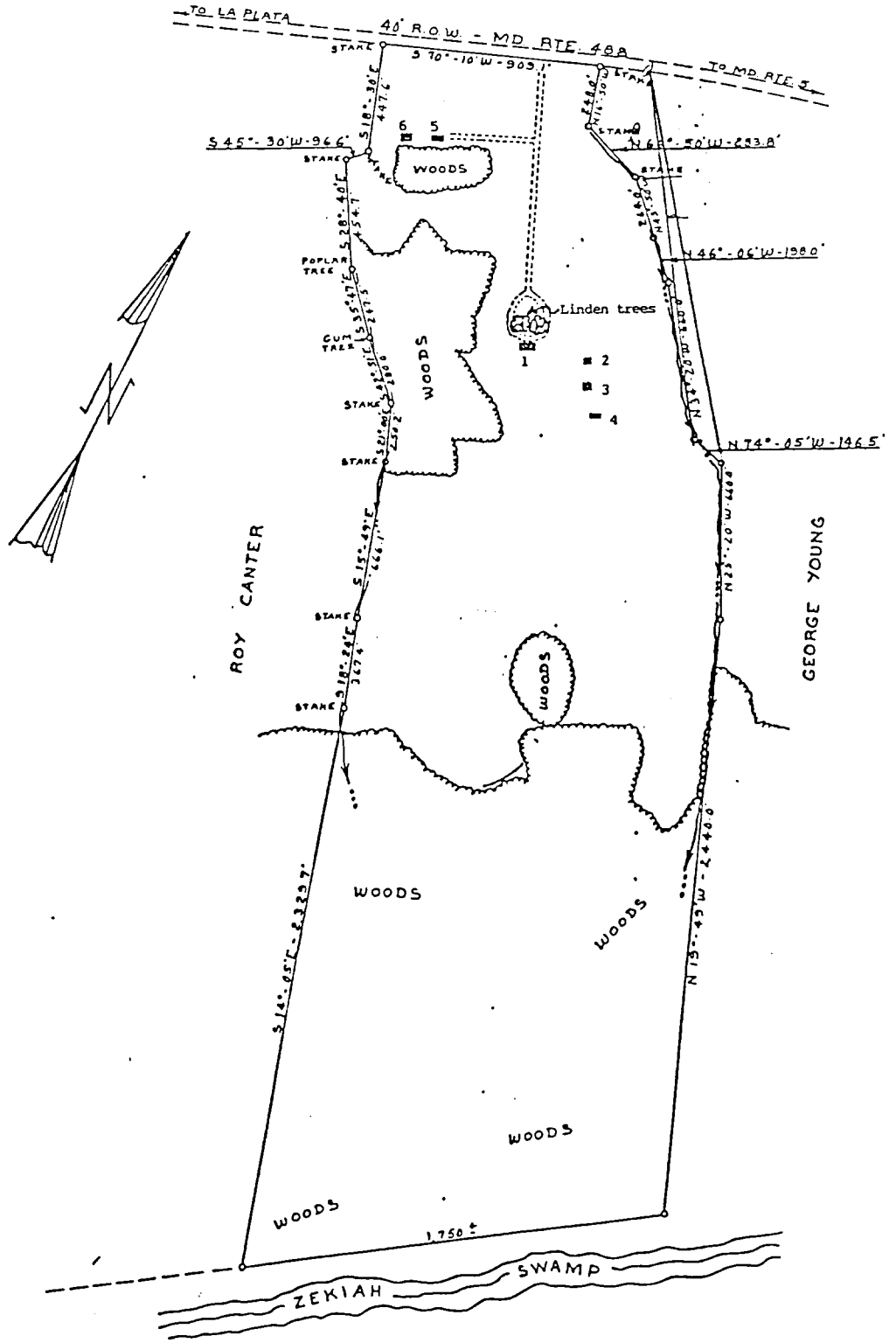
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION



first floor plan, 1989
(not to scale)

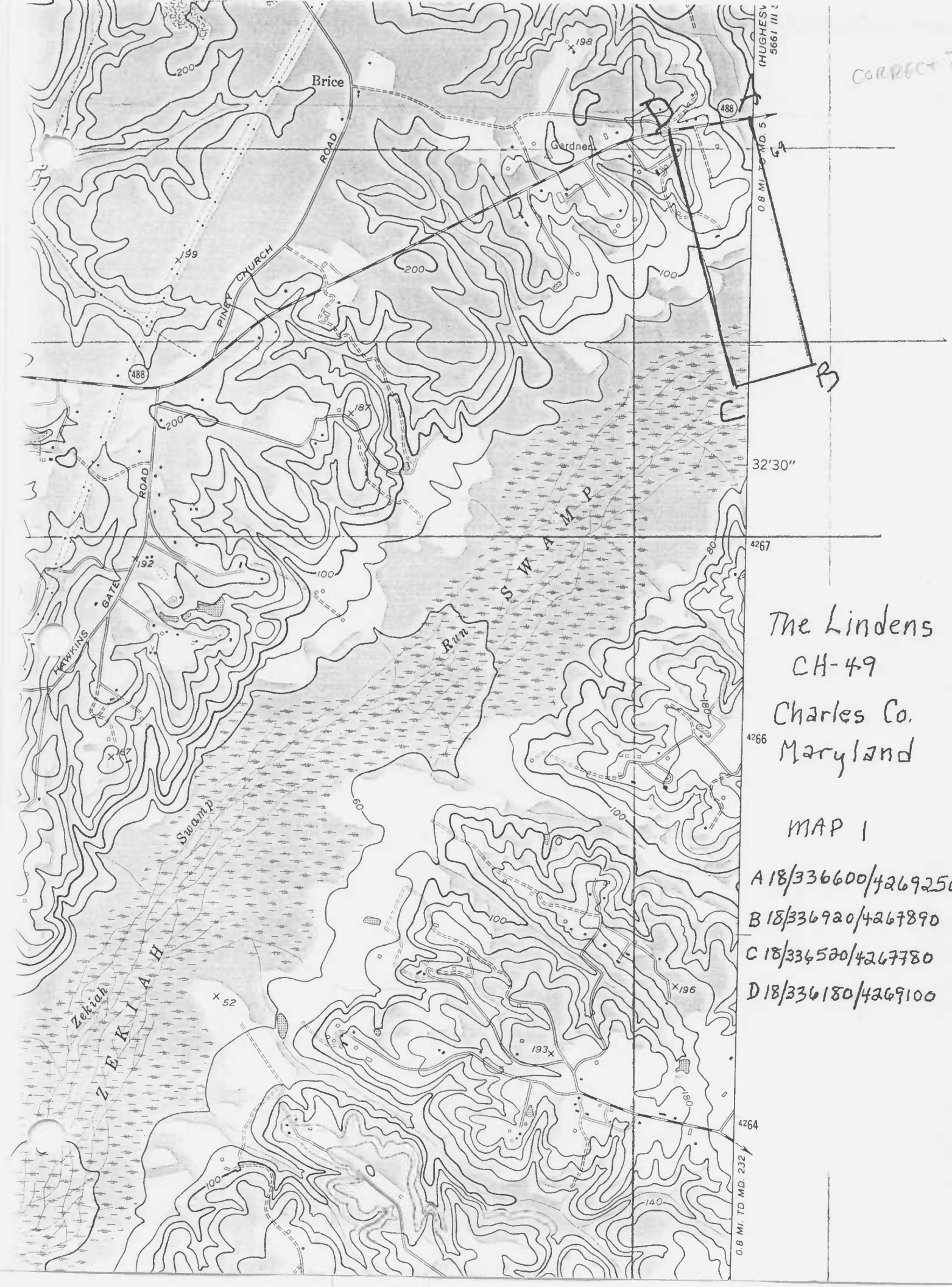


SITE PLAN

and

BOUNDARY MAP

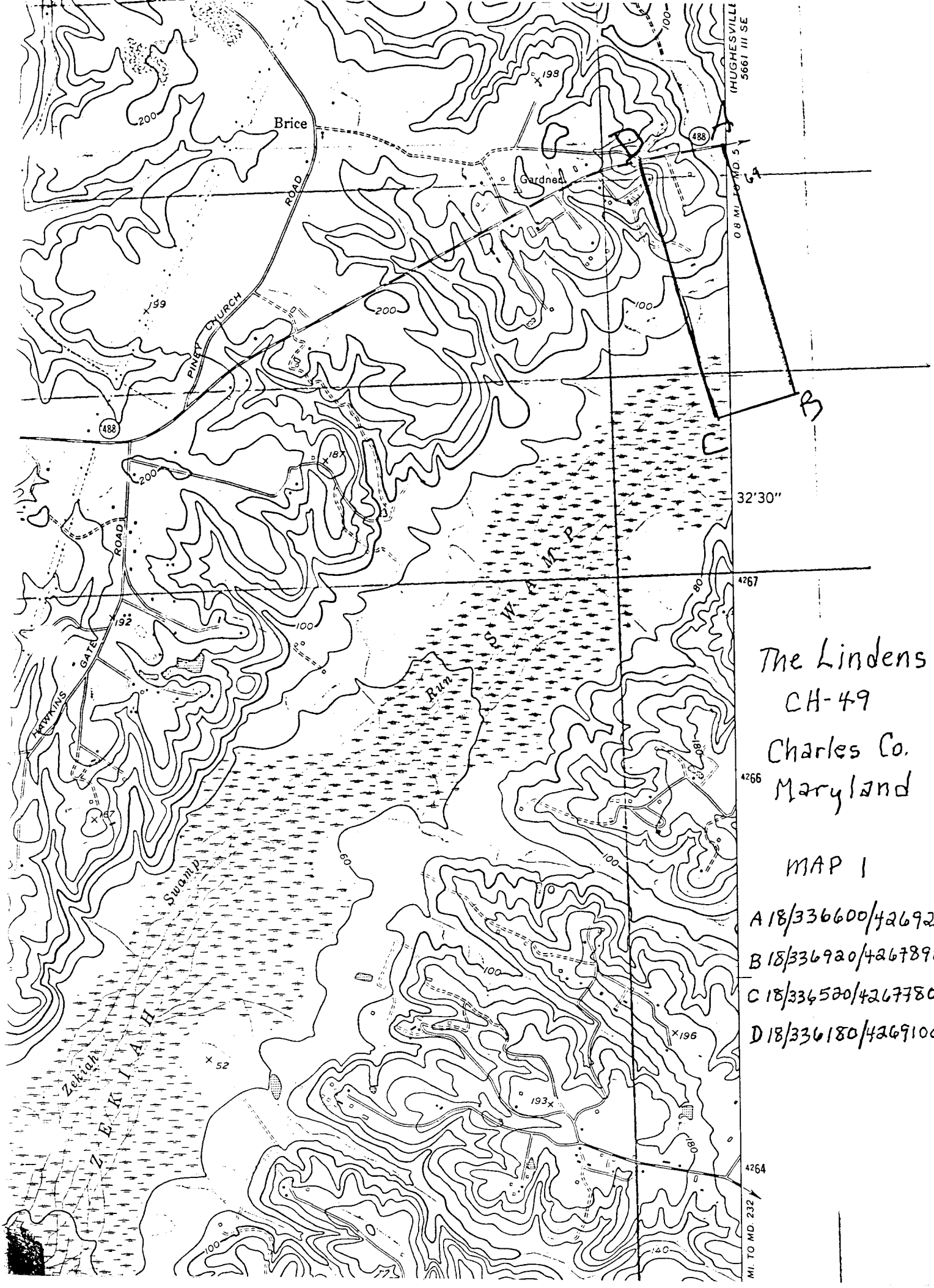
1989



The Lindens
CH-49
Charles Co.
Maryland

MAP 1

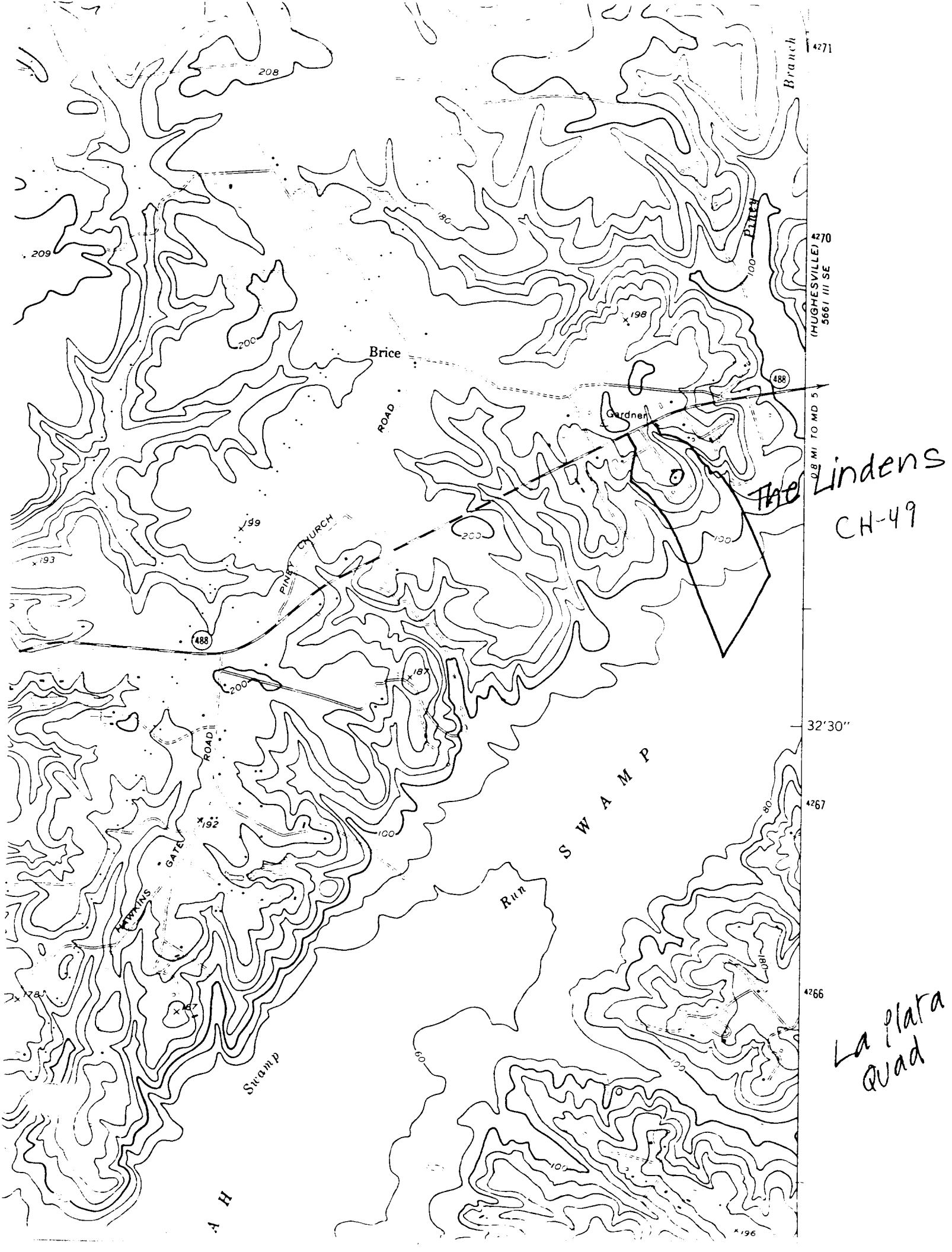
A 18/336600/4269250
B 18/336920/4267890
C 18/336520/4267780
D 18/336180/4269100



The Lindens
CH-49
Charles Co.
Maryland

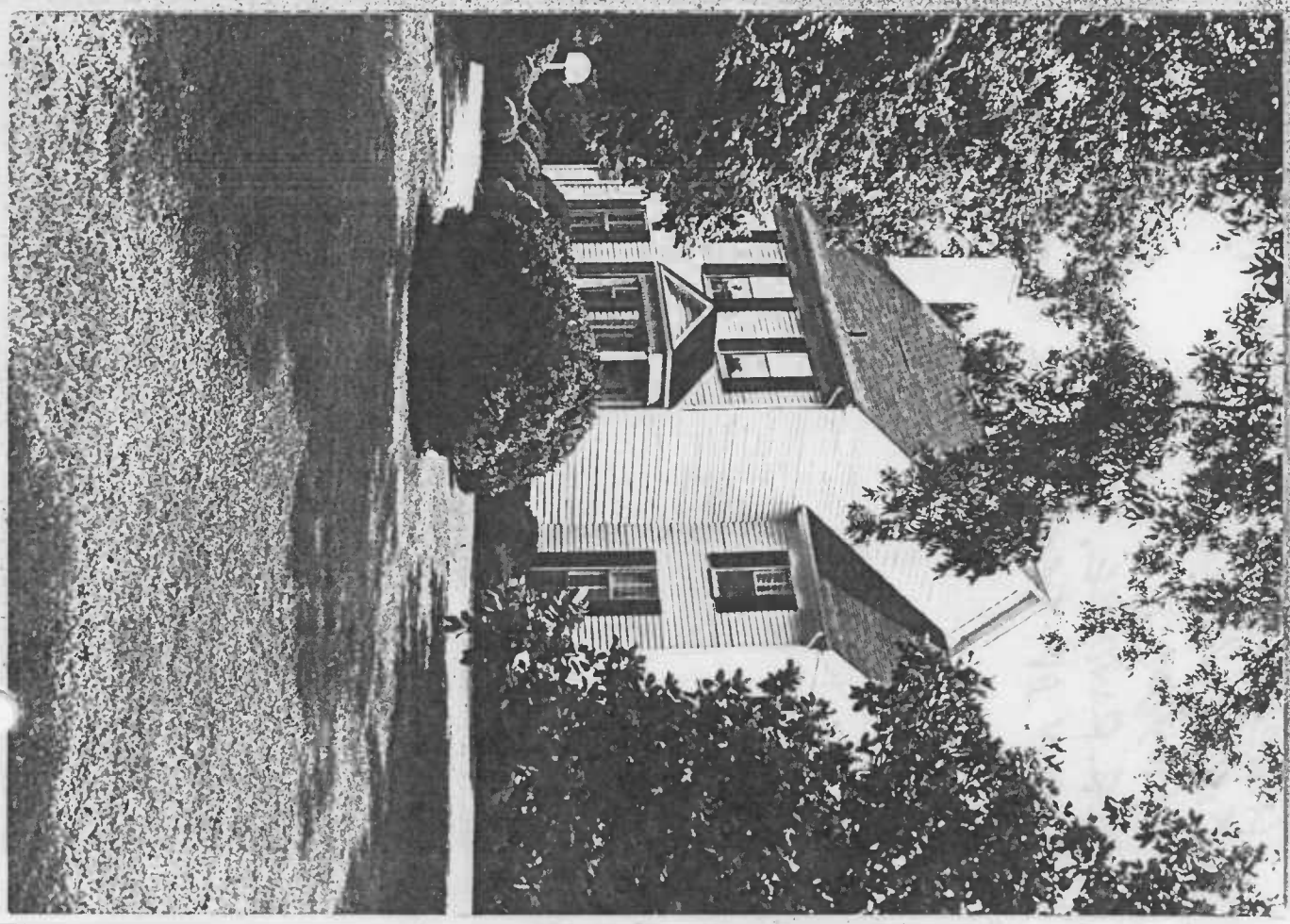
MAP 1

A 18/336600/4269250
B 18/336920/4267890
C 18/336520/4267780
D 18/336180/4269100



Branch
Piney
Brice
ROAD
Gardner
488
PINEY CHURCH
488
ROAD
HAWKINS GATE
SWAMP
Run
Swamp
AH
(HUGHESVILLE) 5661 III SE
0.8 MI TO MD 5
32'30"
4271
4270
4267
4266
208
209
180
200
198
199
193
187
192
178
167
100
80
60
196
The Lindens
CH-49
La Plata Quad

CH-49



THE LINDENS (CH-49)
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
J.R. RIVOIRE
8/10/89
J.R. RIVOIRE, LAPLATA, MD.
VIEW OF FRONT ELE. FROM N.
1/13

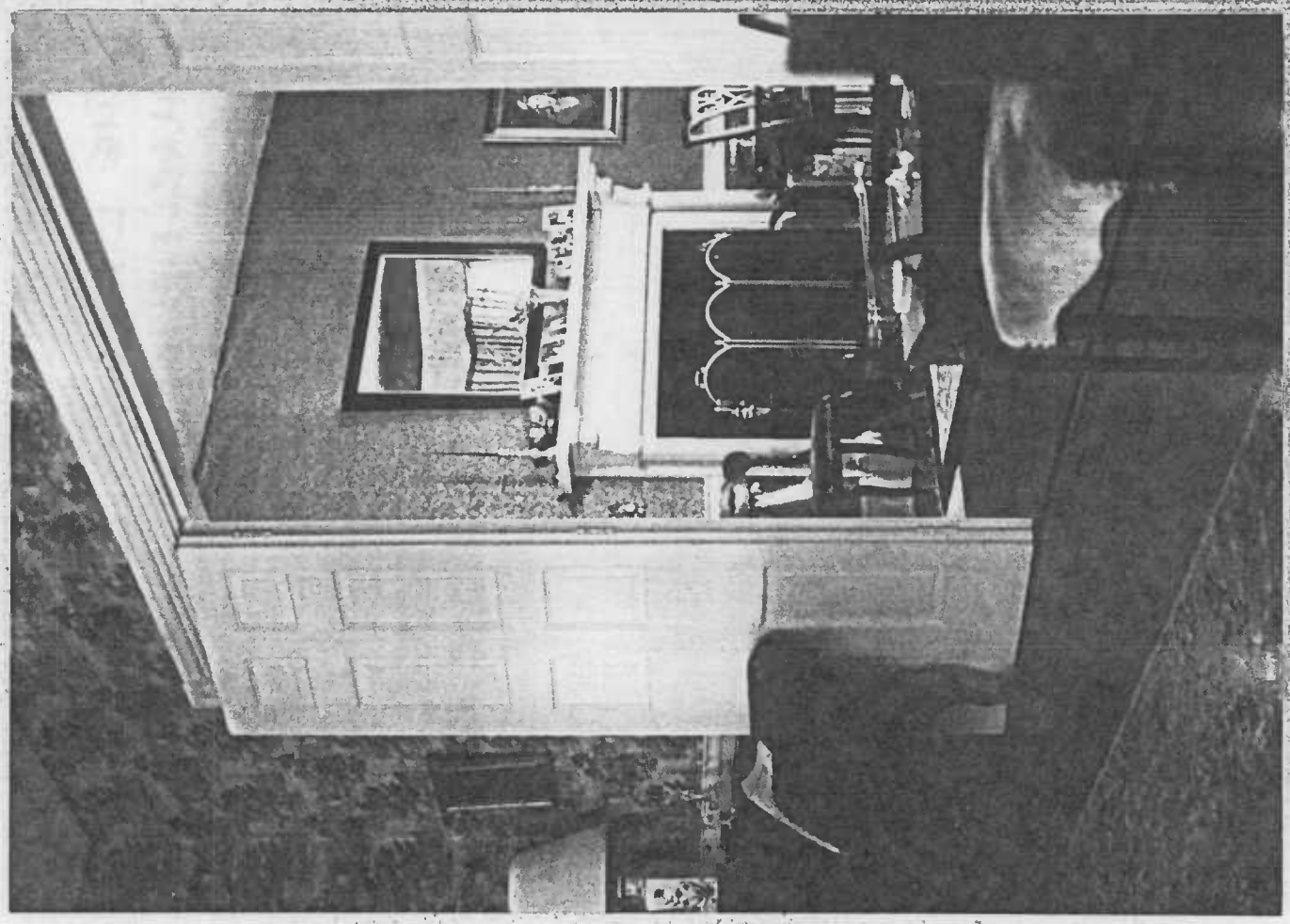
THE LINDENS (CH-49)
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
J.R. RIVOIRE
8/10/89
J.R. RIVOIRE, LAPLATA, MD.
VIEW OF FRONT ELE. FROM W.
2/13

CH-49

THE LINDENS (CH-49)
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
J.R. RIVOIRE
8/10/89
J.R. RIVOIRE, LA PLATA, MD.
VIEW OF REAR ELE. FROM S.
3/13

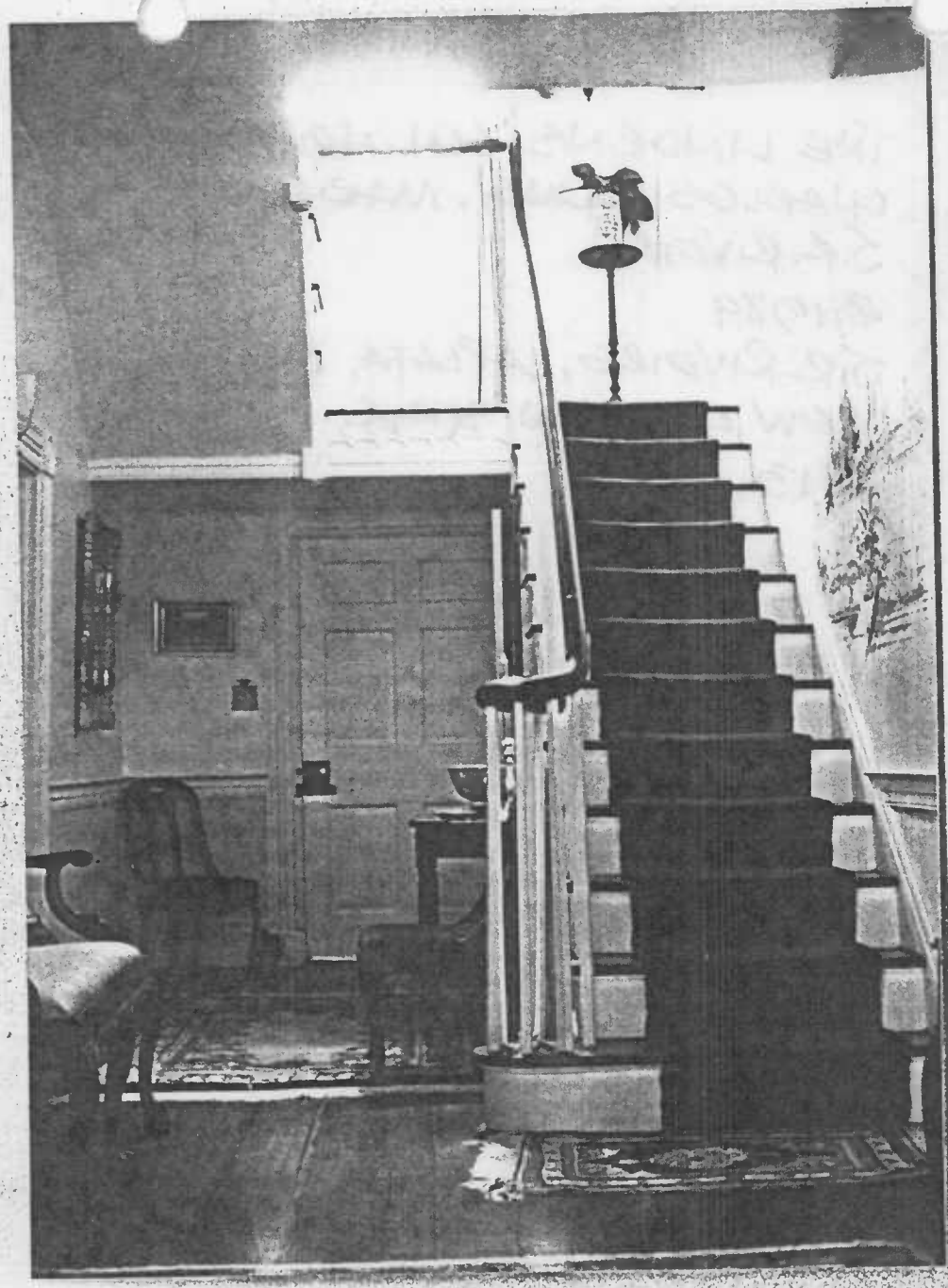
THE LINDENS (CH-49)
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
J.R. RIVOIRE
8/10/89
J.R. RIVOIRE, LA PLATA, MD.
DETAIL OF SE GABLE 'E' WINDOW
4/13

CH-49



THE LINDENS (CH-407)
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
J.R. RIVOIRE
8/10/89
J.R. RIVOIRE, LA PLATA, MD.
VIEW OF MANTEL, FIRST FLOOR FRONT RM.
5/13

THE LINDENS (CH-407)
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
J.R. RIVOIRE
8/10/89
J.R. RIVOIRE, LA PLATA, MD.
FOLDING PARLOR DOORS & MANTEL OF FIRST FLOOR REAR ROOM.
6/13

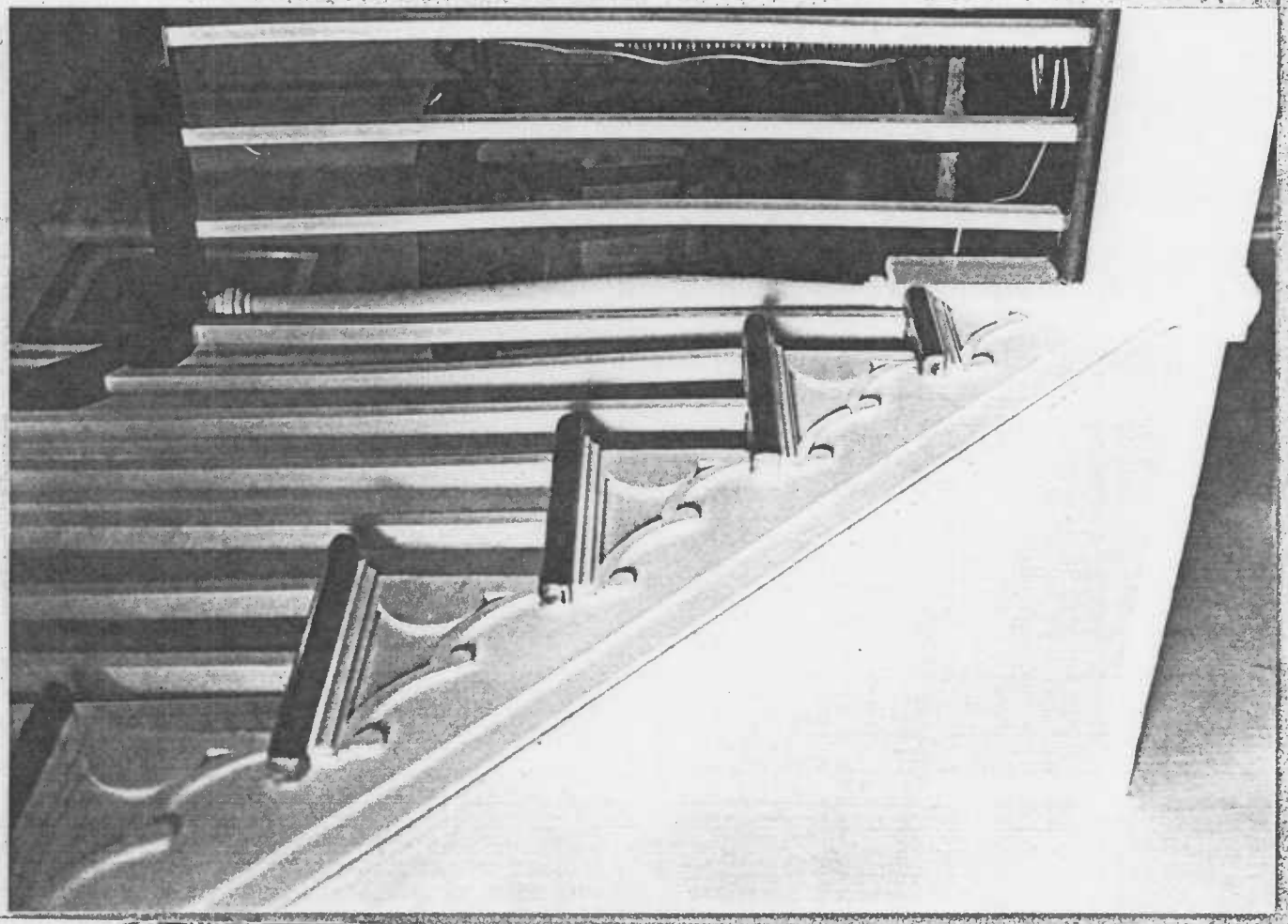


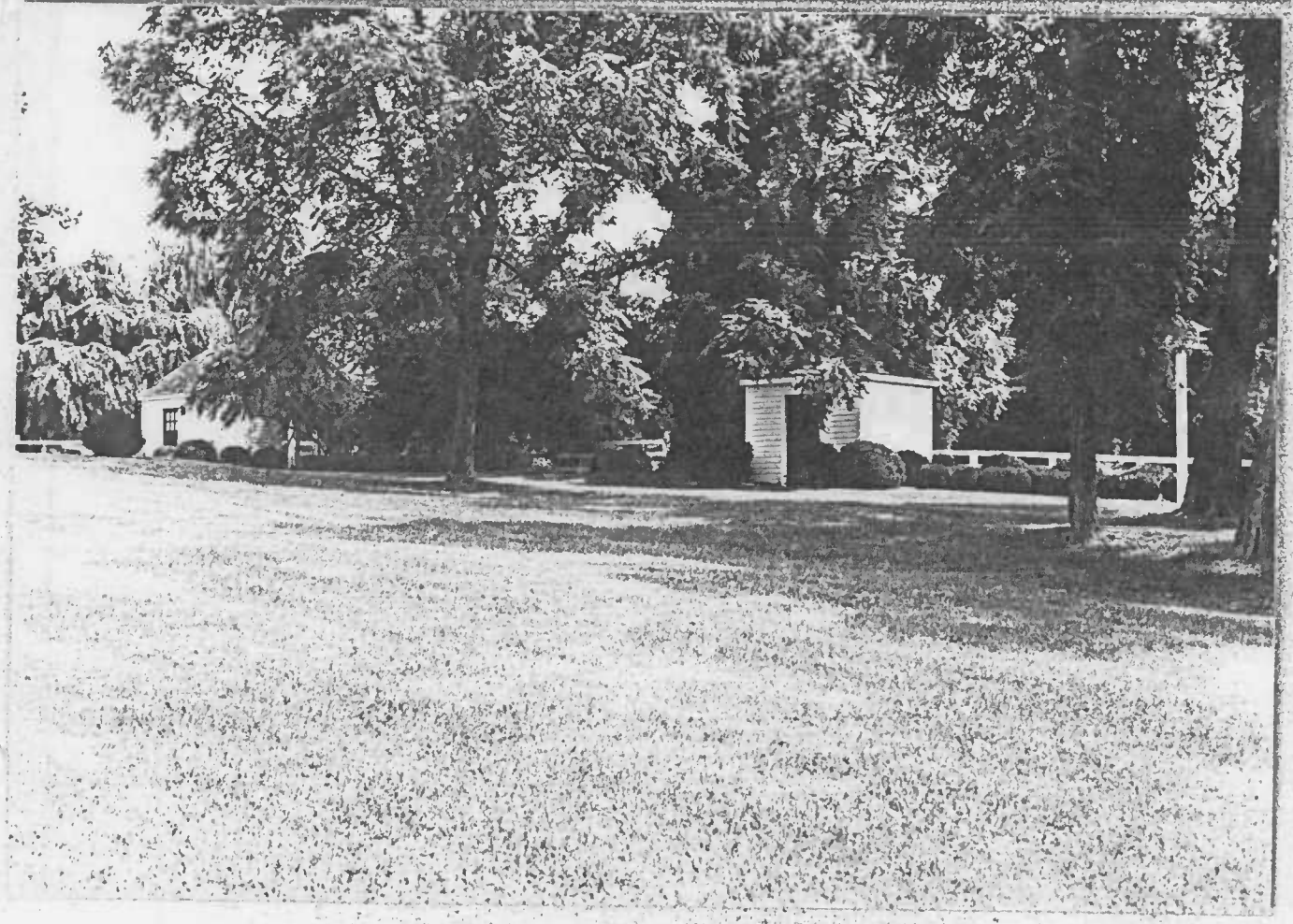
CH-49

THE LINDENS (CH-49)
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
J.R. RIVOIRE
8/1989
J.R. RIVOIRE, LAPLATA, MD.
DETAIL OF TRANSVERSE ARCH,
FIRST FLOOR PASSAGE
7/13

THE LINDENS (CH-49)
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
J.R. RIVOIRE
8/1989
J.R. RIVOIRE, LAPLATA, MD.
VIEW OF MAIN STAIR
8/13

CH-49

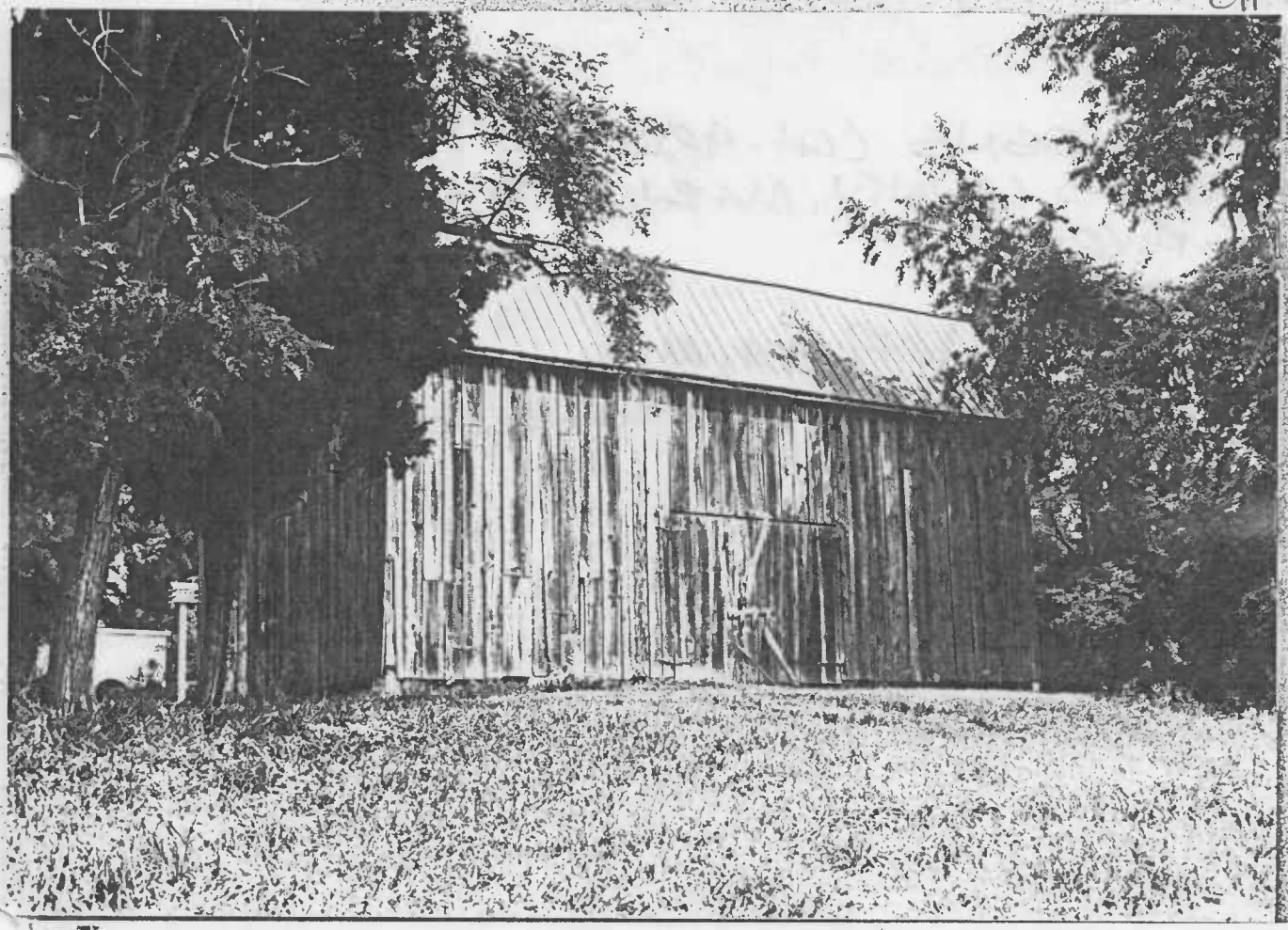


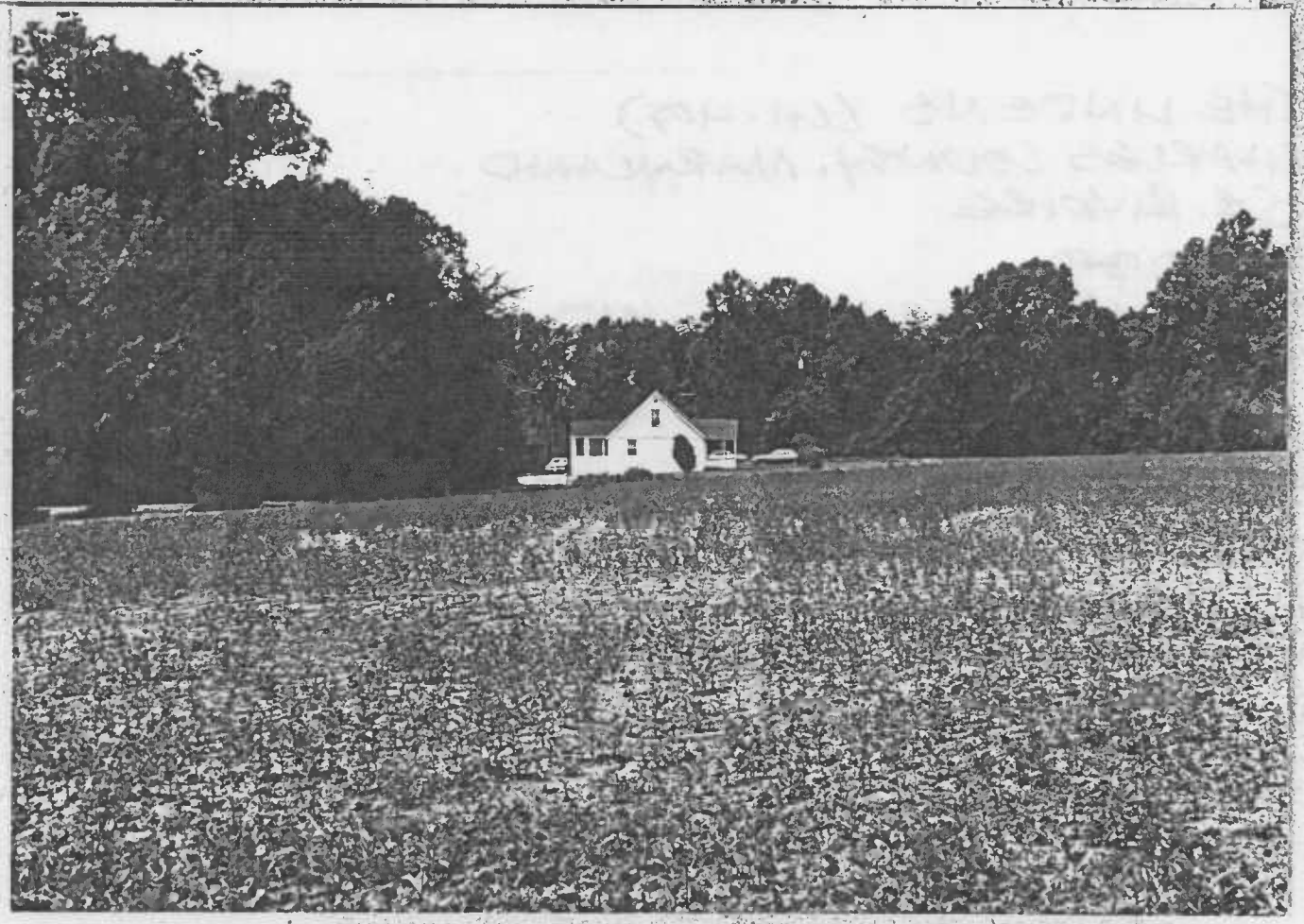


THE LINDENS (CH-49)
CHARLES COUNTY, MD.
J.R. RIVOIRE
8/10/89
J.R. RIVOIRE, LAPLATA, MD.
STAIR DETAIL
9/13

THE LINDENS (CH-49)
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
J.R. RIVOIRE
8/10/89
J.R. RIVOIRE, LAPLATA, MD.
VIEW OF SHEDS #2 (L.) AND #3 (R.),
CAMERA FACING N.
10/13

CH-49





THE LINDENS (CH-409)
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
J.F. RIVOIRE
8/10/989
J.R. RIVOIRE, LAPLATA, MD.
BARN #4. CAMERA FACING N.
11/13

THE LINDENS (CH-409)
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
J.R. RIVOIRE
8/10/989
J.R. RIVOIRE, LAPLATA, MD.
VIEW OF TENANT HSE. (#5), WITH BARN (#6)
FROM NE
12/13

CH-49

THE LINDENS (CH-49)
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
J.R. RIVOIRE
8/10/89
J.R. RIVOIRE, LAPLATA, MD.
GEN. VIEW OF LOWER FIELDS. CAMERA
FACING SE
13/13

CH-49

Post Card

THE LINDENS: East Gable Detail
J.R. Rivoire, 9/1978

H-49

Post Card

THE LINDENS: View from SE
J. R. Rivoire, 9/1978

PLACE

BigShots
AUG., 1978

CH-49

THE LINDENS: View from NW.
J.R. Rivoire, 9/1978 CH-49

PLACE STAMP

BigShots
AUG., 1978