

K-381

Rodel Acres
Kennedyville
1st Quarter 19th Century

On the farm called Rodel Acres near Kennedyville stands an interesting combination of brick and frame farmhouse with an 'L' plan. It apparently started as a three-bay, two-story, brick farmhouse with gable-end chimneys. Originally facing north, the front was laid in Flemish bond and has a stepped watertable. Although the interior has been altered, the original plan of the brick section appears to have been a hall-parlor. It probably had a kitchen wing off the west gable.

Around the third quarter of the 19th century the new owner decided to reorient the house and built a frame wing on the south side, even with the east gable. The new east facade, now facing the road and including the old brick gable, was completely covered with weatherboard. The east chimney was dismantled to the basement level and a new one built on the north side to balance that at the new south end. The east gable, above the attic floor, was also dismantled and the roof was then hipped at its juncture with the old section. The old center door of the north facade was converted into a window and a two-bay, two-story kitchen wing was built onto the west gable. The resulting house is very similar in form and development to Gondomah near Massey.

In the deed to the property, the beginning point of the survey is the first stone of a tract called Partnership.¹ In 1877, the farm is shown in the Atlas as in the ownership of J. F. Wilson.² The current name is derived from

K-381

2

the first names of the last owners.³

1. Land Records, Lib. EHP 95, fol. 335.
2. 1877 Atlas.
3. Ibid No. 1.

*RODEL ACRES
Kennedyville, Maryland
(18th century & later)*

Rodel Acres is significant because it contains portions of a late 18th century brick dwelling that were incorporated into a larger, central-hall house in the third quarter of the 19th century. The structure is an interesting amalgam of two styles and two house forms and includes a handsome 19th century stair.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Rodel Acres

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER *Rt. #1 Browntown Road*

1st

CITY, TOWN

Kennedyville VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Kent

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

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 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 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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME *Mary E. Edwards*

Telephone #: *302-654-8478*

STREET & NUMBER

10 South Gray Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Wilmington

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Delaware 19805

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC *Kent County Court House*

Liber #: *EHP 95*

Folio #: *336*

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

K-58

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 DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Rodel Acres house is a late 18th century brick dwelling which was incorporated into an L-shaped building late in the next century.

The original building was three bays wide and one bay deep with a central entry. Two stories in height, the building probably had a gable roof. It faced north, toward the northeastern branch of Morgan Creek, and this facade was laid in Flemish bond with random blue-gray headers. The mortar joints are tooled and there is a stepped water table. The other walls are laid in Liverpool bond. It had one chimney enclosed in the last gable and another with stepped shoulders set into the west wall.

When the building was altered, a two-story frame addition was constructed on the eastern side of the old south facade and an L-shaped hipped roof replaced the gable roof. At the same time a two-story, two-bay frame addition was built on the old west gable. The house was reoriented to face east; and the plan was changed to include a central hall. The chimney formerly in the east gable was demolished and a pair of chimneys were constructed in the north and south ends of the new "main house." The addition of a simple three bay by one bay hipped roof front porch completed the remodeling.

In the 1940's the frame portions of the building were covered with asbestous shingles and the entire structure painted white. The house is roofed with asphalt shingles and raised-seam tin.

Windows in the brick section of the building retain their original frames which are pegged at the corners but unbeaded. The first floor windows are longer than those above but both have 6 over 6 sash which probably dates from the 19th century. The later windows duplicate the original in size and alignment. All windows have quarter-round backbands which are attached with wire nails.

*The main entry, in the central bay of the five bay front facade, has a three lig**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-381

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 *late 18th , alterations (3rd quarter)* BUILDER/ARCHITECT *late 19th*

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Rodel Acres farmhouse is significant because it includes portions of an early brick house. In addition, the building is an interesting amalgam of two styles and two house forms. The handsome interior stair is another feature which contributes to the importance of this structure, as is the existance of good 19th century woodwork.

The outhouse is a rare survival of a once-necessary structure which was rather elegantly designed with an unusual amount of finish.

Rodel Acres is a name coined by two past owners, Robert L. Edwards and Delmar Nickerson.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

K-381

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

Marsha L. Fritz, Survey Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Planning Commission

DATE

778-4600, ext.67

STREET & NUMBER

Court House

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

transom with a wide central pane and three-pane sidelights with a simple recessed panel beneath each sash. The door has four flush beaded panels on the inside and shallow raised panels on the exterior; these panel are edged with applied Grecian ovolo and bevel panel moldings.

The 19th century chimneys are capped with flaring corbelled caps and pairs of clay chimney pots.

On the interior of the house all visible detailing dates from the late 19th century. Doors have four recessed panels with the same panel moldings as the main entry door. This molding is also used on the upper edge of the baseboards. A sketch of the trim is shown below. This profile is used as the window apron as well. Flooring is 6" wide (average) yellow pine which is in some rooms covered with narrow oak flooring. A sketch of the trim used on the interior of the kitchen wing is also shown below.

The most notable interior feature is the stair set in a generous central hall. It has a slender, simple walnut newel which is reminiscent of early Federal designs and an elliptical, molded handrail. The balusters are turned and they rest on an open string. The stair spandrel is made up of recessed vertical panels.

In the original cellar are both brick fireplace arches, a storage area enclosed with vertical boarding, and a board door with straphinges, and a wooden string latch. The basement was floored with brick and the ceiling beams were first whitewashed but later plastered over. A louvered wooden ventilator remains in place in one window and the position of the original bulkhead in the east bay of the north facade can be determined by alterations in the brickwork.

The farm retains several outbuildings which probably date from the time of the remodeling. One, shown in the accompanying photograph, is a hipped-roof outhouse with a bold cyma recta crown molding on the cornice and louvered windows in the east and west facades. The entry door has four panels and duplicates those inside the house. The interior of this structure is plastered and wing-type trim is used around the windows and doors. The building, which measures 6'1" square in plan, has a cleanout in the rear. The windmill shown stands beside a brick milk house with a gable roof and common bond brick walls. The oldest farm building on the property is a wooden granary with a pegged frame and nailed roof. It is covered with vertical boarding.

The farmstead is sited in open fields with distant views of the Morgan Creek treeline to the north and west. Four historic sites are visible from the property; they are K-369, K-209, K-210, and K-189.

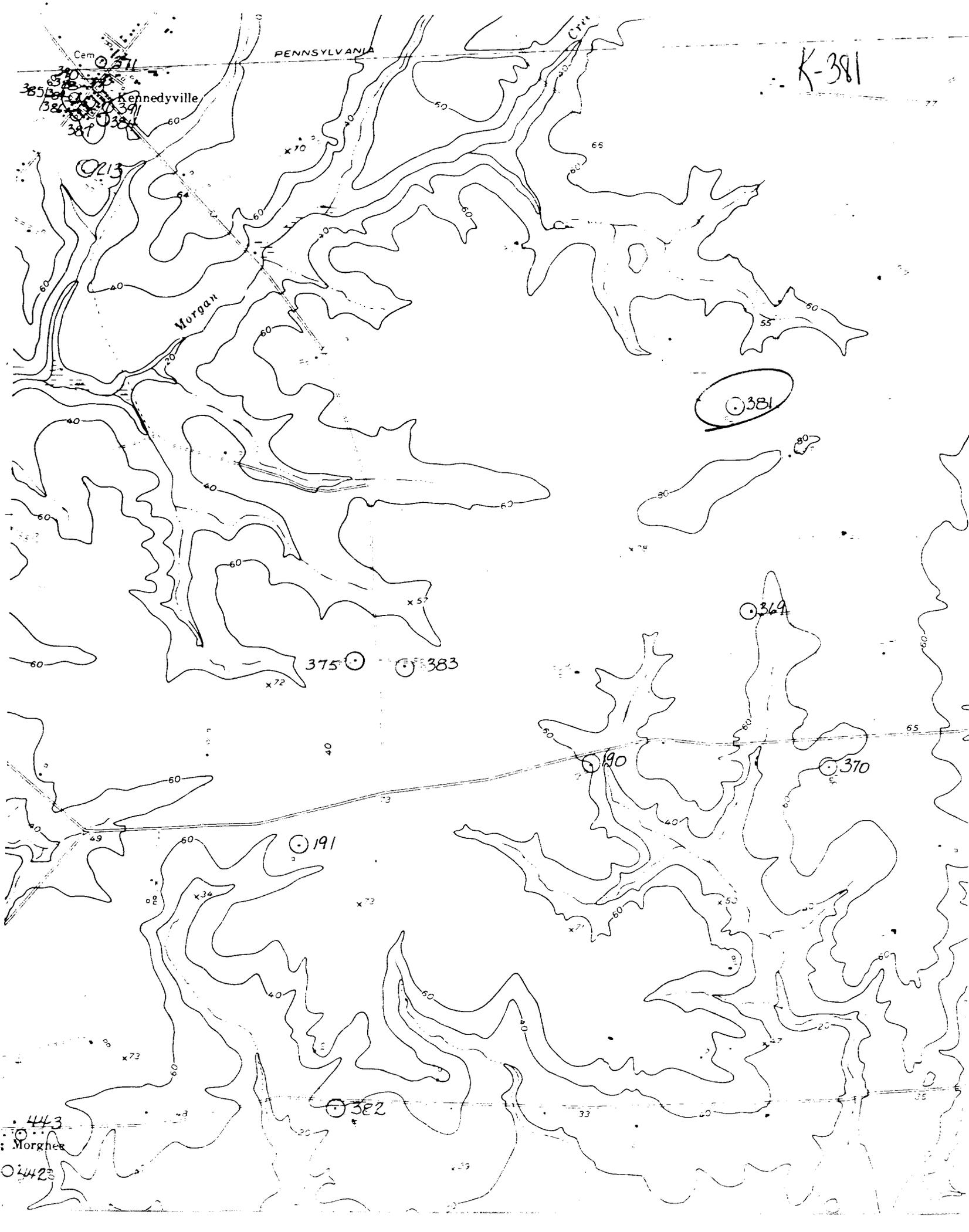
The house and barns are well maintained.

Trim - Main Rooms



Trim - Wing





K-381

PENNSYLVANIA

Kennedyville

Morgan

Cem
385
386
387
389

381

375 383

349

370

191

382

443
Morghees

442

x70

x57

x72

x34

x73

x72

x71

x50

x37

x35

33

60

35

190

65

x74

80

55

65

50

60

77



K-381

Rodel Acres

Farmhouse + "Necessary"
Kennedyville, Kent County

J. Tyler Campbell
FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHY
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
K-381 Rodel Acres **LIBRARY** C.1820