

*NICHOLSON FARM (K-397)
Chestertown, Maryland
(1898)*

The Nicholson-Stanton House is a large, rambling frame structure that was constructed in 1898 by Robert S. Nicholson, one of the original directors of the Kent County Railroad. The parlour has a remarkable pressed tin ceiling and doors with fine painted burl graining.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC NICHOLSON FARM

AND/OR COMMON
Stanton-Nicholson Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER *East side Flatland Road (Rt. 514) one mile north of intersection with Route 20*

1st

CITY, TOWN *Chestertown* VICINITY OF *Kent* CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE *Maryland 21620* 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 *Estate of Anna C. Stanton, c/o Giles Stanton* Telephone #: *301-778-1864*

STREET & NUMBER
Flatland Road

CITY, TOWN *Chestertown* VICINITY OF STATE, zip code
Maryland 21620

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

Liber #: *WHG 19*
Folio #: *336*

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN *Chestertown, Maryland 21620* STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

K-397

CONDITION

<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Nicholson-Stanton House is a very large, rambling frame structure that was constructed by Robert G. Nicholson about 1898 to replace an earlier house which had burned.

In plan the house is really a cross-gable building which has a two by three bay extension on the north west gable of the main house. The gable end of this extension projects forward one bay and the resulting "L" is filled in with a three-bay long entrance porch.

There is also a generous two-story bay window on the southeast gable. The main house is 2½ stories high, but the roof has no dormers, being lit only by large round-headed, 2 over 2 sash windows in the end and central gables.

Behind the main house is a four bay long ell. Two and a half stories tall, the gable roof of this wing has two dormers in each slope. These dormers have overhanging eaves and 2 over 2 sash.

The lower two stories of the house are covered with plain, beveled 5" siding finished against 4" cornerboards. The gables of the main house are filled with imbricated shingles. The roof is covered with early asbestous shingles painted reddish brown.

Large plain brick chimneys rise at both sides of the central hall at the ridge of the main house roof and in the end gable of the wing.

The windows are regularly spaced throughout the building giving the structure a sense of symmetry and order in spite of its asymmetrical massing. Two over two sash are used in both the main house and wing; trim and sills are plain and project very slightly from the wall surface, but the addition of a Greek ogee and bevel molding at the upper edge of the lintel gives the impression of an architrave.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-397

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input 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 *1898*

BUILDER/ARCHITECT *Robert G. Nicholson*

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Nicholson-Stanton House is significant for its architecture and for its association with Robert G. Nicholson, an entrepreneur of the late 19th century. Nearly intact, the building is an outstanding example of the taste and life style of a prosperous and progressive Victorian businessman in Kent County.

Mr. Nicholson was involved in the raising, storage, and shipping of fruit, an important agricultural commodity herein the decades after the Civil War. In addition to extensive land holdings, he had an ice house in Chestertown. This farm was the site of his orchards. In the late 1860's and 1870's, Mr. Nicholson was a director of the Kent County Railroad and it has been suggested that Nicholson Station, a projected railroad stop near Worton, was named for him.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lake, Griffing, & Stevenson. An Illustrated Atlas of Kent and Queen Anne (sic) Counties, Md., (Philadelphia: 27 South Sixth Street, 1877.)

Hayman, John C., Rails Along the Chesapeake, (Salisbury, Md.: Marvadel Publishers, 1979)

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 21620 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

The main entrance of this house has a pair of entry doors. Each door has two panels with bolection moldings on the exterior and four panels on the interior. These interior panels are arranged with two long panels above the lock rail and two small panels below. The sidelights have three panes with red-yellow-red glass and panels to match the door panel beneath. The transom light has two blue panes above the side lights and a wide central pane of red glass with the name "R.G. Nicholson" etched into it.

The front porch of the Nicholson-Stanton House has a flat hipped roof, a cyma recta crown molding at the cornice, and four turned posts. Decorative bracketts are very large, but flat and wide in appearance. There is evidence of reddish brown or brownish-red "picking out" on each. The balustrade is made of turned balusters. The side porch is similiarly detailed except the posts are chamfered.

Like many farmhouses of the late 19th century, the side porch is divided in half by a lattice screen which separates the porch, functionally, into two portions. One portion provides access to the side entrance and the other to the kitchen.

Interior woodwork and stairs of this building are nearly in their original condition. The trim illustrated below is used with turned corner blocks and is stained and varnished. The switch-back stair, also varnished, is open to the upper story and rises around an open well. It has foliated step bracketts, simple turned balusters, a bold molded handrail, and round newels with block and ball tops. The newel and handrail are walnut; the balusters are oak.

Interior doors have four raised panels with burl graining and brass box locks with knobs which have cast geometric designs. Original mantles are slate with a black and brown marbelizing.

The southeast room on the first floor is a remarkable example of late Victorian interior design. The ceiling is covered with tin in a small square panel design; the tin cornice is about 15" deep with a Greek key design. The room is surrounded by verticle board wainscoating with a reeded chairrail. Unfortunately the mantle in this room has been removed. It was slate and resembled those in the other rooms of the house.

Floors throughout the house are random yellow pine ranging in width from 4" - 6".

Behind the house is a long gable-roofed shed and two gable roofed barns. There is a small three-bay, gable roofed tenant house nearby.

Chain of Title

NICHOLSON-STANTON HOUSE (K-397)
Chestertown, Maryland

Land Records of
Kent County

Transaction

WHG 19
336

TO: Anna C. Stanton
FROM: Bessie M. Nicholson
DATE: June 28, 1951

SB 11
261

No previous reference
Nov. 17, 1888

JTD 12
305

Source of preceding reference

SB 2
416

TO: Robert G. Nicholson
FROM: Wilbur Eliason & wife
DATE: October 18, 1881

Farm came into the Nicholson family at this time. Evidently they built a house soon after purchasing the 215 + acres. There was no house on the site in 1877.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

K-397

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY





K-397

Nicholson-Stanton House

View from South

Chestertown

Kent County

M.L. Fritz

2/1980

J. Tyler Campbell

FREE-LANCE PHOTOGRAPHER
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

JAN 15 1980