

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Arcadia

and/or common Arcadia

2. Location

street & number North side Langford-St. Paul's (Ricaud's Branch Rd.),
.2 mile west of Langford Rd. (Rt. 446) not for publication

city, town Chestertown vicinity of congressional district FIRST

state Maryland county Kent

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"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Albert Brice

street & number RD # 3, Box 265 telephone no.: 301-778-0949

city, town Chestertown state and zip code Maryland 21620

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Court House liber EHP117

street & number folio 46

city, town Chestertown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. K-469

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

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

The main section is a five-bay, 2½ story, central-gable, frame structure (the central gable is unusually narrow and steep) built in the 1870's. To the rear (with its eastern walls flush with those of the main section) is an ell in two sections, telescope fashion, with the rear section appearing to be the older.

8. Significance

Survey No. K-469

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

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This house, as one approaches it from the public road, appears to be a typical rural Kent County central-gable Victorian. However, according to the current owner, whose grandfather built the main section in the early 1870's, the main section was the only portion built at that time, being added perpendicular to the two sections which now form the rear ell. This is consistent with the evidence in the two rear sections, which appear to be earlier, though probably not more than about 30 years earlier; the central portion of the house has a now-enclosed stair with a side hall plan. The rear portion, now a kitchen, with a corner stair is a one large room on both levels and may be somewhat earlier than the middle portion (they have different rooflines) though probably not before 1840. Family lore holds that there formerly was a house section to the rear of the current second section which was said to have burned. A 20' to 30' long brick floor and foundation remained below ground level and were found during recent gardening efforts. This may have been a kitchen wing, or perhaps even a quite early main house.

Dating the two rear portions now standing is quite difficult because of replacement of some elements and remodeling during the 1920's and again recently. In any case, this site has been used for a farmhouse for at least 120 years and perhaps for longer, perhaps even as early as the 18th century.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Maragret Q. Fallaw, Surveyor		
	County Commissioners of Kent County		
organization	Historical Society of Kent County	date	5/29/81
	The Court House		778-4600
street & number	Church Alley	telephone	778-3499
city or town	Chestertown	state	Maryland 21620

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
 Shaw House
 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 269-2438

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Building Form and Material

1. Size - Main Section: 2½ stories, 5 bays wide, 2 bays deep
 Wing A: 2½ stories, 2 bays wide, 2/3 bays long
 Wing B: Slightly lower, 2 stories, 2 bays wide, 2 bays long
2. Plan type - One room deep central hall, with ell to rear with 2 sections in telescope fashion. To rear of Wing B was an older portion perhaps 30 feet long, with foundation and brick floor remaining below ground level.
3. Roof type - gable.
4. Chimneys - Location: Main Section - center within west gable wall; Wing A - center of gable end joining main section; Wing B - center of rear gable.
 Materials: Brick
 Decorative elements: Main section - corbelled cap;
 Wing A - tall and narrow, perhaps rebuilt, cap; Wing B - corbelled cap.
5. Material/Walls - Main Section: Frame - Asbestos shingles over weatherboard.
 Wing A: Frame - Asbestos shingles over weatherboard.
 Wing B: Frame - Asbestos shingles over weatherboard with about 5" exposure.
6. Material/Roofs - Asphalt shingles (black)
7. Material/Foundation - Main Section: brick (crawl space, originally open at front on piers with access under old porch)
 Wing A: brick (cellar)
 Wing B: brick (crawl space)
8. Age - Main Section: Early 1870's
 Wings - Wing B appears to be the earlier of the 2 rear sections, though floor joists in the crawl space bear circular saw marks, which would place it not earlier than 1840 or 1850. Together with Wing A (and possibly also with a supposedly burned section* once to the rear of wing B), the rear sections could have stood alone as a modest-sized house. There is a stair in each of the two rear wings; a now enclosed straight stair with windows at the top in Wing A and a corner stair in Wing B which emerges behind the fireplace chimney on the 2nd story. There are old-looking board and batten doors to this stair and at the east outside entry to Wing B, but they appear to be more careful reproductions (and include old hardware) than old and original. They may well be contemporary with other late 19th-early 20th century changes to the first floor room.
 *A 20-30' brick floor was discovered below ground during recent gardening efforts to the rear of Wing B. Earlier Kitchen Wing? Early main house? Dating 2 rear sections is difficult because of replacements and remodelings during 1920's and recently.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION (continued)

9. Style - Central gable (steep & narrow 1-1½ bays wide) Victorian with rear earlier wings in telescope fashion.

Building Elements and Details

1. Doors - Main entry: Located in the central bay of the main section; 4-light transom with simple composite transom bar; 3-light sidelights over single raised panel with Greek ogee and bevel panel molding; double doors with 2 recessed panels each (upper round headed). Outside frame - 1" fillet and ½" inside bead. Interior - 2 rectangular panels per door.

Secondary entries: Wing B - east side, center bay (steps removed) with shed-type canopy supported by large brackets each side and a kind of dentil effect below fascia. Door - 2 large round-headed lights over 2 recessed panels with bold bolection moldings. Frame - fillet and inside ½" bead, brown marbelized porcelain knob on exterior, door and canopy may post-date the wing. Wing A - from first floor of 2 story porch in ell on west side of house. Mid-20th century door-length shutters; plain board frame; 3-light transom. Also from same porch to rear of main section - (to center hall) - frame of fillet and ½" inside bead; plain recessed panel door (4) with no panel molding; white porcelain knob; mid 20th century louvered door shutters (fixed). Wing B - from east side porch - ½" inside bead visible, tongue and groove door - beaded boards of regular pattern (3¼-3½") but wide battens (10") (pegged) on interior. Cast hinges. Doors probably 30-50 years old with re-used hardware in part. Also kitchen corner cabinets next to kitchen fireplace appear to date from early 20th century remodeling.

2. Windows - Main section: type - double hung
lights - 2/2; attic 4/2 - 2 each gable
end. details - wooden plain sills; trim -
1" fillet and ½" inside bead

shutters - louvered; appear to be the
originals; green latch or hook type hold-backs on some but wires
used to fix shutters to wall since asbestos shingles applied.

Wings: type - double-hung; attic of Wing B - 4 light
casements

lights - 6/6 (quite large in Wing A) (Wing B
sash recently replaced)

details - Plain sills; in Wing A only about
½" - ¾" of fillet visible of frames; storm windows throughout
(milled aluminum); other side 1½" plain frames. Wing B- fillet, ½"
inside bead.

shutters - louvered

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION (continued)

3. Dormers - Gable thru-out. Main section - 2 each side over end bays - approach facade; 2 in rear slope, in 2 west bays; 2/2 double hung sash with upper sash segmentally arched; plain pilasters; overhang 3 sides - about 6-8"; no returns; cheeks-aluminum siding over weatherboard. Wing A - 2 east side, 1 west - 6/6 with plain board pilasters; no overhang at eaves; return about 6"; cheeks- aluminum siding over clapboard.

4. Roof details - Main Section: Plain eaves return (no box cornice); overhang 12-14" all sides; crown molding - cyra reversa; no bed molding. (May have been removed during residing.)

Wings: Wing A - plain box cornice with 4-5" bevel crown and no bed molding (may have been removed during residing). Wing B - plain box cornice with beveled crown molding and no bed molding (appears to be replacement cornice); eaves overhang of about 8-10"; slightly tapered verge boards, roof not steep.

5. Porches - Main section approach facade - almost 3 bays wide and 1 bay deep with gable roof; built about 1934 to replace original porch, which ran nearly the width of house; brick steps; tongue and groove floor boards; clapboard tympanum; 2 pair of square front posts with broad chamfered corners and lambs tongues below simple capitals. The current front porch is Georgian Revival in feeling. Wing and main section juncture - Within west side L a 2-story porch was added, possibly at the time the main section was built or not long thereafter. The upper porch is largely unchanged, with a dense scroll-sawn balustrade and open area above; this possibly was a sleeping porch. The end has been enclosed with asbestos siding. On the first floor the posts have been replaced by mid 20th century round "classical colonial" posts, and the wooden porch floor has been replaced by a lower brick floor with an uncovered extension the length of Wing B. The roof is shed. On east side of Wing B and about $\frac{1}{4}$ of Wing A is a shed-roofed (with standing seam metal), open, 3-bay wide and 1 bay deep porch with brick floor at ground level, and 1 end completely and the other partially enclosed by siding. 2X roof rafters are 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". With its 4" x 4" posts (which may be quite recent replacements), this porch may have been added in the late 19th or early 20th century. The present owner, who lived in the house as a child, recalls the porch's being there in the 1920's.

6. Color - Current: white with white trim and dark green shutters
Historic: wing B - under east porch an area of dark green painted clapboard was visible.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.4 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Interior Description

1. Plan type - central hall one room deep with rear ell.
2. Major stair - open string with 2 turned (and part octagonal) balusters per step; bold composite newel (turned and octagonal); rail continuous from newel to 3rd floor; applied scroll brackets. (has landing window)
Other stairs - Wing B - corner stairs - to right of fireplace - behind fireplace - from west porch; - Wing A - side hall plan - enclosed straight stair with winders near top - yellow pine treads - vertical beaded board wainscoting. Stair hall has vertical board (beaded) wainscoting with compound chair rail to 3rd floor.
3. Major mantles - ¹⁾Wing B - closed at damper; rectangular opening 44" high x 51" wide; flat splayed segmental arch. Appears to have been only brick surround originally - mid 20th century pilasters and shelf added. ²⁾Parlor mantle - marbelized slate removed and opening (rectangular) closed with brick. Mantle replacement is simple Greek Revival style with broad plain frieze and pilasters. ³⁾Living Room Mantle - rectangular opening with flat, slightly splayed arch. Straight rounded shelf. Slightly arched frieze over straight frieze. Plain pilasters with simple bases and capitals. Opening originally to dining room, changed to living room in 1930's - resembles Greek Revival mantle. May have been original to house or removed from 1850's -1860's house. Or wing A (now housing the dining room on the first floor) may date from that period.
4. Major trim - Windows/doors: main section narrow fillet, large Greek ogee and bevel, 2" inside fillet and inside bead.
Baseboards: 7" board with Greek ogee and bevel;
living room beaded board wainscoting.
Cornices: Main section removed or mid 20th century
Chair rails: Living room - Greek ogee and bevel topped by a kind of half round
5. Major doors - Main section - 4 raised panel with ogee and bevel panel molding. Wing A - upstairs - plain raised 4-panel.
6. Floors - Wing B - wide random yellow pine under linoleum (widest 14-16"), strip yellow pine elsewhere; 2nd floor Wing A - medium-width random pine. Wide pine - attic of A - cut nails Wing B - attic floor - wide planks and cut nails - knee walls are of horizontal boards.
7. Walls/ceiling finishes - Paint or wallpaper over plaster, wood panelling in kitchen.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.5 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Outbuildings/Site Description

1. Major outbuildings - Brick spring house: Demolished.
Barn: Is log beams from farm - very sturdy and well maintained. Bay-type construction in perhaps the late 19th century.
2. Site description - Located at the end of a .3 mile lane from the public road, the house stands on a slight elevation in a generally flat area. The front lawn is encircled with trees; a swimming pool lies to the east. The lane continues past the house to the west, to numerous farm outbuildings lying to the north and west of the house.
3. Views to/from site - To the south, beyond the trees encircling the front lawn, cultivated fields stretch to the public road. Beyond the public road the fields and yard trees of Middle Plantation can be seen. The cultivated fields of Arcadia can be seen in the other three directions with trees in the distance. To the southeast the trees in the yards of the houses at Langford Crossroads, as well as portions of several houses, are visible.

Use of Building

1. Current - Private residence
2. Historic - Private residence, combined with occasional agricultural products storage in some rooms.

History of Building/Past Ownership

The property has been owned and occupied by the Brice family for four generations, the current owner's grandfather having built the main section in the early 1870's. The name Arcadia derives from the earlier large tract of land of that name of which the Brice family earlier owned a substantial portion. The family holdings were vastly reduced during the 19th century as the result of estate settlement, with the present Arcadia being the remainder.

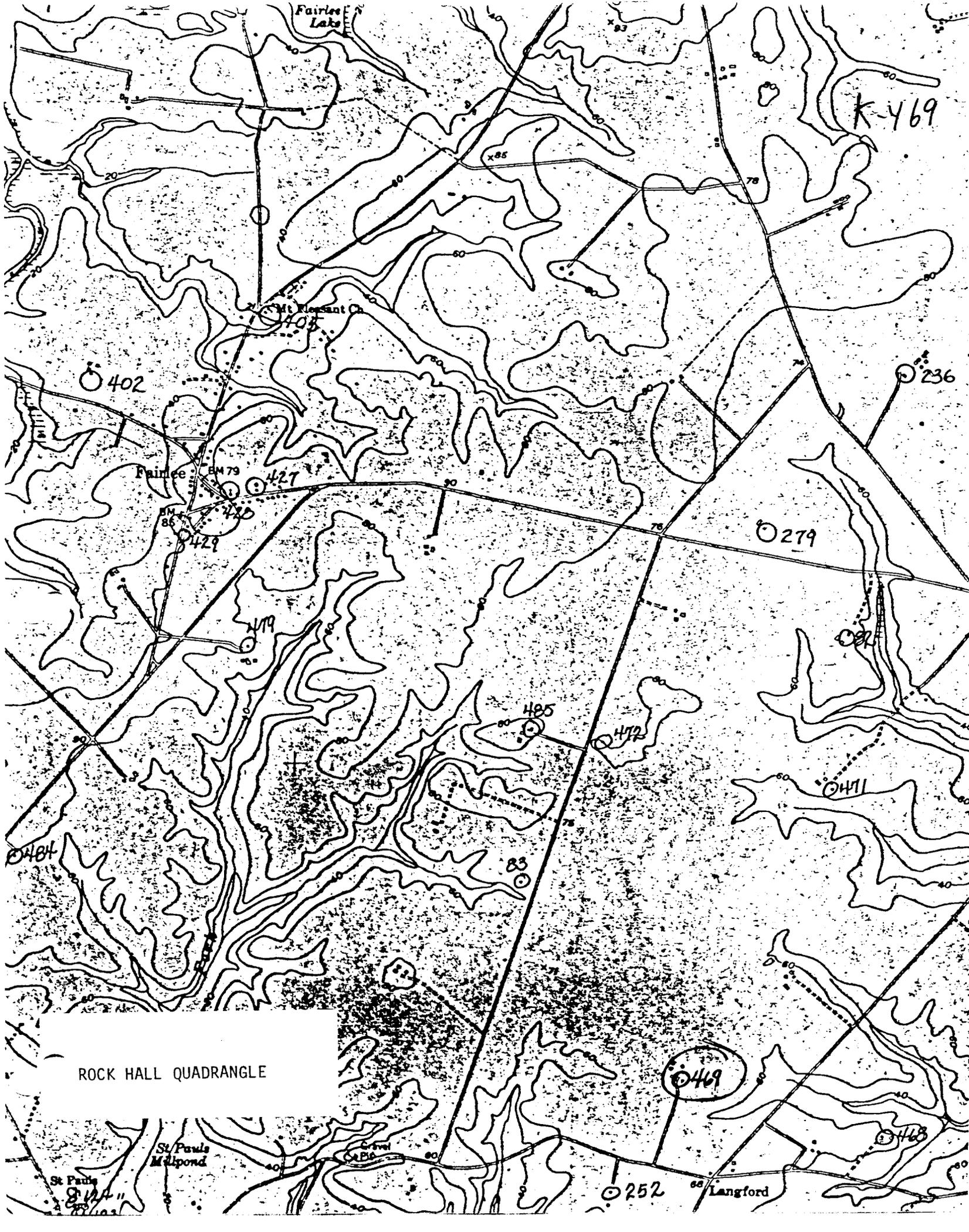
This property has been a family farm for over a century. Now a grain farm, it formerly included (probably during the late 19th century) a sizable peach orchard.

A plot adjacent to the farm lane on the north side of the public road was earlier the site of the Langford School (School #7), a one-room school which was last used about 1933. It has been demolished, and no evidence of the structure remains; the site is now in cultivation. Residents of Arcadia would have participated over the years in the social and commercial life of the crossroads village shown nearby in the 1877 atlas as Trappe, with the post office called

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.6 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Lankford (undoubtedly to avoid confusion with the other Trappe, Maryland). Besides the school, the village boasted several stores and several blacksmith shops, besides several residences. Only residences remain in 1981.



K-469

Fairlee Lake

403
Mt Pleasant Ch

402

Fairlee

BM 79

427

428

429

479

485

472

279

471

484

83

ROCK HALL QUADRANGLE

469

463

St Pauls Millpond

St Pauls

Langford

252



View to Northeast

ARCADIA (K-469)

Langford, Chestertown, Kent County

Photograph: M. Q. Fallaw, May 1981