WO-69 c. 1850 and later
Caerlaverock Farm
Snow Hill vicinity
private

Construction of the mid nineteenth century farmhouse on the Caerlaverock farm is credited to James B. Robins, Sr., who acquired three tracts of land, "Caerlaverock," "Leeds," and "Common Garden" in November 1850. The Pocomoke River farm remained under James Robins's ownership until his death in 1868 when the property was inherited by his son, John L. Robins. The farm remained in Robins family hands until 1934 when Ethel T. Hargrove acquired title to the land. In 1941 the property changed hands once more when Harold E. and Jennie P. Nock purchased the farm from the Hargroves. The Nocks were responsible from the major rebuilding of the farm complex. More recently, Charles and Martha Nock Fulton have resided on the property. They decided to rework the farmhouse after they purchased the family farm in 1969.

The agricultural complex, situated on a high ridge of land northwest of the Pocomoke River, includes the mid nineteenth century farmhouse as well as early to mid twentieth century outbuildings. The two-and-a-half story farmhouse is notable for its mahogany stair and Greek Revival influenced mantels. The exterior is also distinguished with period features such as the corner pilasters and pedimented gable ends. Perhaps most significant architecturally are the two outbuildings that stand southeast of the house. Closer to the drive is a cross-gabled frame office, and next to it is a water tower. Both structures were erected around the turn of the twentieth century. The farm complex contains a group of mid twentieth century farm buildings as well.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: CAERLAVEROCK FARM

MHT Inventory Number: WU-69

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

ARCHITECTURE
AGRICULTURE

2) Geographic Orientation:

EASTERN SHORE

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

AGRICULTURE-INDUSTRIAL TRANSITION (1815-1870)

4) Resource Type(s):

1. STANDING STRUCTURES.
   A. PLANTATION DWELLING.
2. OUTBUILDINGS-
   A. OFFICE
   B. WATER TOWER
   C. BARNS

Survey No. WO-69

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic: NOCK FARM, JAMES B. ROBINS FARM

and/or common: CAERLAVEROCK FARM

2. Location

street & number: South side of MD Route 12 ___ not for publication

city, town: Snow Hill x vicinity of congressional district: First

state: Maryland county: Worcester

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	x yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	x not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

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

name: Charles R. and Martha Nock Fulton

street & number: Caerlaverock Farm telephone no.: 632-2421

city, town: Snow Hill state and zip code MD 21863

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Worcester County Clerk of Court liber 511

street & number: Worcester County Courthouse folio 48

city, town: Snow Hill state MD 21863

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title: Maryland Historic Sites Inventory

date: 1972 ___ federal x state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records: Maryland Historical Trust

city, town: Annapolis state MD 21401

7. Description

Survey No. WO-69

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	_x_ original site
_x_ good	___ ruins	_x_ altered	___ moved date of move _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

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

Caerlaverock farm, also commonly known as the Nock farm or the Robins farm, is located on the south side of MD Route 12 bordering Nassawango Road and the Pocomoke River. The main farmhouse and complex is located on a high ridge of land with the principal entrance lane intersecting MD Route 12. The farmhouse faces northeast with the main gable roof oriented on an northwest/southeast axis.

Built around 1850, the two-and-a-half story, five-bay center hall frame house is supported by a raised common bond brick foundation with a fully excavated cellar. The house has been covered with aluminum siding, and the steeply pitched roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story rear wing that forms an ell. Around 1970, the house was extensively remodeled. At that time the original interior end chimneys were replaced with exterior end stacks. Also a two-story, colossal columned portico was attached to the front of the house in place of the earlier porch. Accompanying the house is a collection of early to mid twentieth century outbuildings including a small office, a water tower, a large gambrel roofed barn, a smaller barn, a garage, a hanger, and a grain elevator.

The northeast (main) elevation of the farmhouse is a symmetrical five-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The replacement double doors are framed by four-light sidelights and a five-light transom. The windows have louvered shutters. Lighting the second floor are five evenly spaced windows hung with louverd shutters as well. The center second floor window features two-over-two sidelights. Piercing the foundation wall are three-pane windows that have louvered shutters also. The roof is marked by a pair of early twentieth century gabled dormers. Framing the house are corner pilasters that have been covered with aluminum.

The gable ends are dominated by exterior brick chimneys that rise through the pedimented gable ends. Six-over-six sash windows flanked by louvered shutters mark the first and second floors, while small two-over-two sash windows illuminate the attic within the pediment.

Covering a large part of the south side is the two-story, three-bay rear ell which is sheltered on the southeast side by a two-story partially enclosed porch. A new, exterior brick chimney stack rises against the south gable end. Six-over-six sash windows light the first and second floors. On the southeast side the porch has been filled in on the first floor and partially enclosed on the second. A section of open porch with a sawn baluster handrail is entered through a second floor door.

(continued)

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-69

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	x agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	x architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
x 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: ___A ___B x C ___D
and/or
Applicable Exception: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

Level of Significance: ___national ___state x local

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

Caerlaverock farm is an agricultural complex consisting of a mid nineteenth century dwelling and a group of late nineteenth and early twentieth century outbuildings situated northwest of Snow Hill. The two-and-a-half story farmhouse has been extensively reworked with the addition of a colossal columned front portico and new interior finishes. During 1970s renovation an effort was made to retain the stair and the original mantels. Perhaps most significant architecturally are the two outbuildings that stand southeast of the house. Closer to the drive is a cross-gabled office and next to it a water tower. Both structures were erected around the turn of the twentieth century. The property contains a complex of mid twentieth century farm buildings as well.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Construction of the mid-nineteenth century farmhouse on the Caerlaverock farm is credited to James B. Robins, Sr. who acquired three tracts of land, "Caerlaverock," "Leeds," and "Common Garden" in November 1850. (EDM 3/376) The Pocomoke River farm remained under James Robins's ownership until his death in 1868 when the property was inherited by his son, John L. Robins. The farm remained in Robins family hands until 1934 when Ethel T. Hargrove acquired title to the land.(BB 22/125) In 1941 the property changed hands once more when Harold E. and Jennie P. Nock purchased the farm from the Hargroves.(JEB 10/130) The Nocks were responsible for the major rebuilding of the farm buildings. More recenlty, Charles and Martha Nock Fulton have resided on the property. They decided to rework the farmhouse after they purchased the farm in 1969.(FWH 272/548)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WO-69

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____ **Quadrangle scale** _____

UTM **References** do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
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
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Paul B. Touart Architectural Historian		
organization	Worcester County	**date**	8/30/89
street & number	Worcester County Courthouse	**telephone**	301-632-1194
city or town	Snow Hill	**state**	Md 21863

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

CAERLAVEROCK FARM DESCRIPTION (continued)

The interior of the mid-nineteenth century farmhouse was remodeled in 1970, but care was taken to preserve the original stair and mantels. The heavily turned mahogany newel post and turned balusters support a molded handrail. The stringer is embellished with a scroll decoration. A six-panel door under the first stair landing opens into a modern bathroom.

The northwest parlor retains a mid nineteenth century mantel with fluted pilasters and a block frieze. The center tablet is highlighted by a sunburst medallion. A complex series of stepped moldings supports a thick mantel shelf. An identical mantel is fixed in the southeast front room.

The second floor and rear wing have been extensively reworked to the point where little of the original woodwork was maintained.

The earliest outbuildings on the property are two turn of the twentieth century structures that stand in the yard east of the house. A small square office building topped by cross gable roof is accompanied by a tall three-level water tower. Each structure is sheathed with vinyl siding and covered by green, wood shingle roofs.

The small office is a squarish frame building that faces northwest. The front elevation is marked by a partially glazed front door and flanking nine-over-one sash windows. The sides are pierced by nine-over-one sash windows as well, and an interior end stack rises through the southwest gable.

The water tower is supported by a low brick foundation, and a pyramidal wood shingle roof covers the three-story structure. A sliding garage door permits access to the first floor from the southwest side, and six-over-six sash windows pierce the sides. The second level tapers inward until is reaches the squarish housing for the water tank. The structure is covered by a pyramidal roof.

The other buildings on the property date from the 1940s and include a large gambrel roof barn (1942), a hanger (1948), and other buildings erected between 1944 and 1946. The most recent structure is a tall grain elevator erected in 1974.

WO-69
NOCK FARM
Chain of title

511/48	Charles R. Fulton, Martha Nock Fulton
	to
2/26/1976	Charles R. Fulton, et. al. "Caerlaverock Farm" or the "Robins Farm" 320 acres
F.W.H. 272/548	Elizabeth R. Warner, unmarried
	to
12/31/1969	Charles R. Fulton Martha Nock Fulton
F.W.H. 272/546	Charles R.Fulton Martha Nock Fulton
	to
12/31/1969	Elizabeth R. Warner
F.W.H. 272/543	Nennie P. Nock, widow and Jennie P. Nock and Martha Nock Fulton, trustees under the last will and testament of Harold E. Nock (Will Book K.J.C. 29/16 9/27/1966)
	to
12/31/1969	Charles R. Fulton "Caerlaverock Farm" 320 acres
F.W.H. 177/253	Kathryn J. Corddry, trustee
	to
1/1/1964	Harold E. Nock and Jennie P. Nock 1st item

J.E.B. 10/130	Ethel T. Hargrove Ernest S. Hargrove
	to
10/9/1941	Harold E. Nock Jennie P. Nock According to a survey made by William D. Pitts 10/31/1941 "Caerlaverock" and being all the same property which was conveyed unto the said Ethel T. Hargrove by three deeds 1. from John S. Whaley, dated 12/26/1934 B.B. 22/125 2. from John W. Taylor, dated 10/19/1934, B.B. 22/126 3. from Walter T. Onley, dated 12/5/1936, B.B. 31/130
B.B. 22/125	John S. Whaley, trustee-case resulted from defaulted mortgage
	to
12/26/1934	Ethel T. Hargrove
O.D.C. 35/306	Julia M. Robins, James B. Robins and Julia J. Robins, his wife
	to
12/31/1919	Edward T. Taylor and William P. Robins
O.D.C. 13/162	Thomas M. Robins
	to
1/10/1913	Julia M. Robins James B. Robins Part of farm

Will Book	Last will and testament of John L. Robins to Julia M. Robins Part of farm
Will Book	Last will and testament of John L. Robins to James B. Robins
Will Book T.T. 8/502	Last will and testament of James B. Robins, Sr. of Littleton to
Written 7/2/1867 Proved 8/8/1868	John L. Robins, minor at the time of will Property must be included in the 'rest and residue clause of will--tract not specifically mentioned
E.D.M. 3/376	Walter P. Snow, trustee to
11/5/1850	James B. Robins $4,500 Whereas by a decree of circuit court 5/19/1849 Case between Ara Spence and John P. Robins complainants and Thomas A. Spence, defendant "Caerlaverock" "Leeds" "Common Garden
G.M.H. 8/414	Thomas A. Spence to
7/1/1845	Ara Spence, Sr. and John P. Robins

$30,000 "Nutter's Neck" in Somerset County, "Caerlaverock" and other lands on the east side of Nasawango Creek called "Choice" "Defiance Enlarged," "Dennis's Conclusion," being all the same lands belonged to a certain John Dennis and a certain James W. Dennis

RUTH T. DRYDEN, LAND RECORDS OF WORCESTER COUNTY 1666-1810

CARLAVEROCK

Patented on January 13, 1720 by Robert Martin for 200 acres in Coulbournes District

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY WO-69

1. STATE Maryland
COUNTY Worcester
TOWN Snowhill VICINITY
STREET NO. Rt 12 + Nassawango Rd (South)
ORIGINAL OWNER
ORIGINAL USE dwelling
PRESENT OWNER Jennie P Nock
PRESENT USE dwelling - tenant
WALL CONSTRUCTION frame
NO. OF STORIES 2½

2. NAME Nock Farm
DATE OR PERIOD C. 1840-60
STYLE Greek Revival
ARCHITECT
BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC No

The Nock Farm house is like many buildings from the 1840-1860 period. It is built of frame, five bays long and two bays wide, two-and-a-half stories tall on a brick basement. There is a screened porch across the facade. The entrance has sidelights and transom and double door. A matching window on the second story corresponds to the door. At the corners of the building are pilasters which begin even in the brick basement. All sash is six over six and all windows have louvered shutters, even those in the basement. The "A" roof dormers have three over three sash and are very squat because of the gently sloping "A" roof. There is a brick chimney within each gable which has a very distinct flare in the upper courses of brick.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered No Interior Exterior good

(continued on reverse side)

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

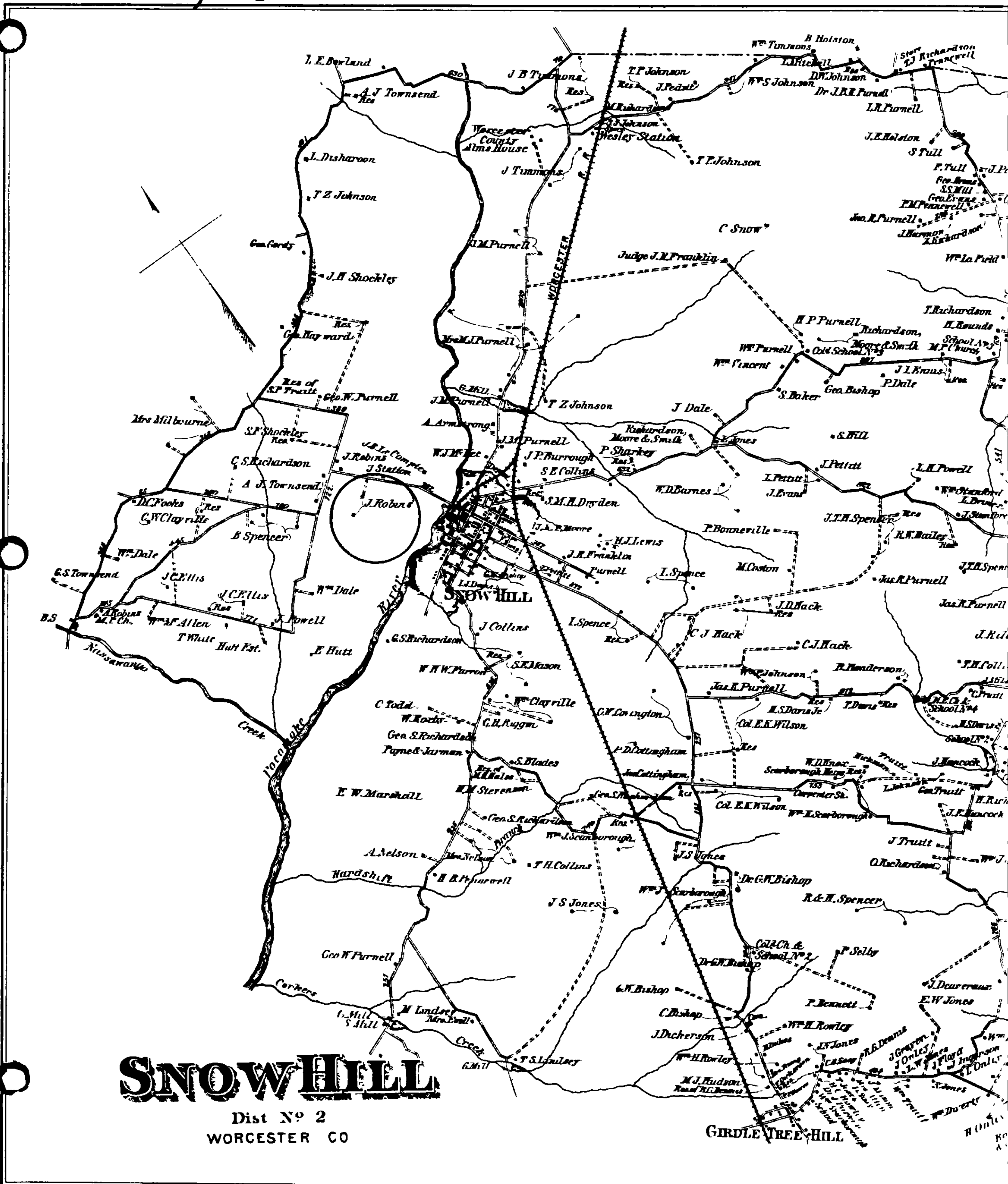
9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER
Michael Bourne
Maryland Historical Trust

DATE OF RECORD Nov 1969

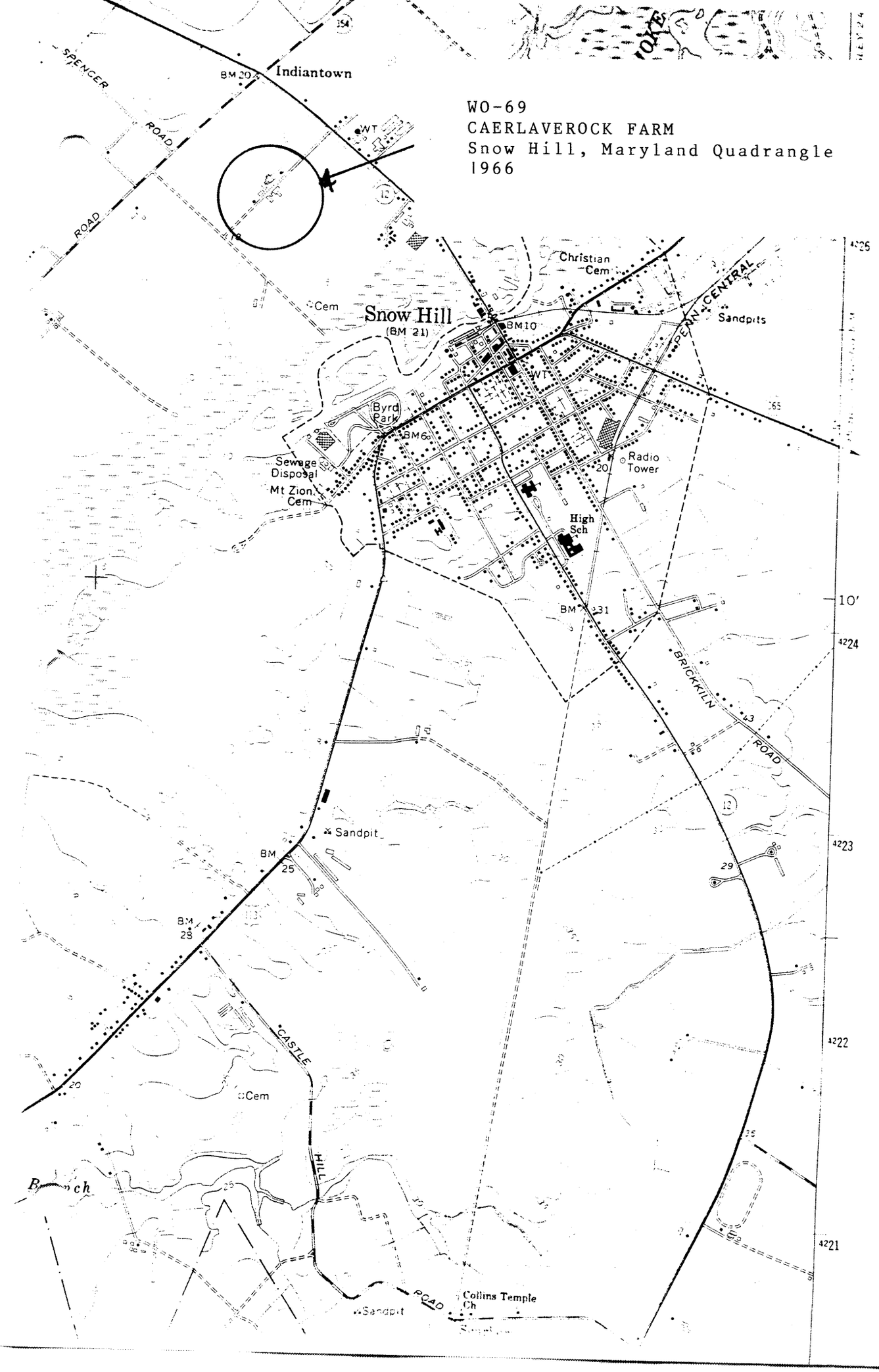
Behind the building is a three-bay 'L' with a two-story porch. The upper gallery has a pierced-work balustrade in the Victorian manner.

The farm is very neat and a few lone tall pines tower above the house. There are several small outbuildings beside the house worthy of note.

1877 Lake, Griffing and Stevenson Atlas
WO-69, Caerlaverock Farm



WO-69
CAERLAVEROCK FARM
Snow Hill, Maryland Quadrangle
1966



SNOW HILL, MD
QUADRANGLE
1966

Nock Farm WO-69

Nock Farm WO-69

11/69 Michael BOURNE