WI-395 c. 1850, c. 1880 and later
Homestead Dairy Farm
Salisbury
Private

One of the principal agricultural landmarks in Wicomico County is the Homestead Dairy farm on Nanticoke Road. Although the dairy operation long ago ceased to function, a significant portion of the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century farm complex remains intact. Located at the end of a tree-lined drive is a two-story farmhouse erected in stages, beginning around 1850 with late Victorian modifications. The center hall/single-pile main block dates around 1890, while the rear wing was built during the third quarter of the nineteenth century, perhaps as early as 1850. The farmhouse is surrounded by late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century farm buildings, principally two large barns and a brick dairy building. The board-and-batten barns, along with a smaller barn and a U-shaped implement storage shed, are all that survive from a vast complex including a score of barns, silos, and tenant houses. The brick dairy building is an unusual single-story gable roofed structure erected around 1920 and appears to have been adapted from popular domestic designs for bungalows. The freight doors on the south and west sides clearly point to its use as a storage structure for the once extensive milk production.

William H. Jackson, one of the wealthiest men residing in Salisbury during the late nineteenth century, created this extensive agricultural estate which he passed on to his son, William P. Jackson, in 1915 after his death. An indication of the valuable buildings on the property as well as the animals housed within was conveyed in an

article written for the *Salisbury Advertiser* when fire destroyed one of the barns, horses and mules as well as the crops stored inside. The paper stated on April 8, 1893:

> *The large cattle and hay barn on Mr. William H. Jackson Rockwalking farm was burned to the ground Thursday morning.*
>
> *The farm is tenanted by Mr. Stanford Culver, and shortly after 4 o'clock Thursday morning Dank Melson and George Williams, employees of Mr. Culver, took a lighted lantern and went to the barn to feed the stock. After feeding the teams, which were in the barn closest to the dwelling, they went to the barn which stands, or rather did stand, in the rear of the barn [yard] where the work animals were. In the rear barn, which was 160 feet by 80 feet, there were fifteen cows, five calves, five young horses, five colts, three mules and about 180 sheep and lambs. On the second floor were 425 bushels of wheat, 260 bushels of oats, about 40 tons of hay and two stacks of fodder. The men had gone to the second floor and thrown a quantity of hay down the passage below and were feeding the animals when the lantern, which was setting on a partition, was knocked over by the fork handle in the hands of one of the men into a stall occupied by a mule. The bedding was of dry oat straw put in the stall a few days before, and the burning oil ignited this. In an instant a flame shot up and spread rapidly from stall to stall and in an incredibly short time the whole interior of the barn was on fire.*

Most of the cows and sheep cooperated during the confusion and were led safely out of the burning barns, however the horses and mules were so terrified that they would not leave their stalls. They perished in the blaze along much the grain crops and stocks of fodder in the field. The tenant farmer, Stanford Culver, owned most of the livestock that was killed in the blaze. It was judged at the time that a new coat of paint on the barn nearest the house saved it from destruction.

During the early twentieth century the extensive dairy operation at Homestead was a principal supplier of milk for the residents of Salisbury. In later years the farm was held by John T. Holt, president of Homestead Dairy Farm, Inc.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Homestead Dairy Farm

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-395

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
Agriculture

2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance
1870-1930

4. Resource Type(s): Farm Complex
-Farmhouse
-Barns
-Dairy
-Wagon Sheds

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-395

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Homestead Dairy Farm

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 27798 Nanticoke Road ___ not for publication

city, town Salisbury _X_ vicinity of **congressional district** First

state Maryland **county** Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	_X_ occupied	___ 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 E. S. Adkins & Company

street & number P. O Box 1779 telephone no.:

city, town Salisbury state and zip code MD 21802

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber 1161

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 498

city, town Salisbury **state** MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town **state**

7. Description

Survey No. WI-395

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.

Homestead Dairy farm is located on the west side of Salisbury at 27798 Nanticoke Road, Wicomico County, Maryland. The farm borders Nanticoke Road on the south and Levin Dashiell Road on the east. The main farm complex is accessed by a tree-lined, paved driveway that intersects Nanticoke Road, and a secondary farm lane intersects Levin Dashiell Road. The farmhouse, located at the head of the paved drive, faces south with the principal gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

The farmhouse, built in two distinct stages, is a two-story, three-bay, center hall, frame dwelling supported on an infilled brick pier foundation and sheathed with wood shingles. The steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The front section is estimated to date around 1880-90. Attached to the back of the center hall main block is a shorter two-story service wing erected during the mid nineteenth century, perhaps as early as 1850.

The south (main) facade of the three-bay house is defined by a two-story colossal columned, single bay portico, which is joined by an enclosed single story porch. A second floor door provides access to the upper porch, and two-over-two sash windows light the second floor rooms. The edge of the roof is finished with an extended eave with open soffits. The rafter ends are decorated and sawn brackets are fixed to the outer corners.

The east and west gable ends are defined by two-over-two sash windows on each floor, and an interior end, corbelled cap brick stack rises through the gable end. The gable end, in contrast to the main body of the house, is covered with fishscale shingles.

The rear wall is largely covered by the two-story, two-room plan service wing that predates the main block. Rising through the center of the service wing is a large brick stack finished with a corbelled cap. The base of the roof is trimmed with a boxed cornice and the flush gable end has a molded bargeboard. A two-story corner infill in the corner joins a single-story, enclosed porch on the east side.

The interior spaces have been modified. A turned baluster staircase remains in the center hall.

Standing northeast of the house are two large late nineteenth-century board-and-batten frame barns, assembled with circular sawn lumber and cut nails. Supported on a combination of pier and continuous brick foundations, the timber frame barns are covered with steeply pitched wood shingle roofs. A pyramidal roofed cupola remains on the larger of the two barns, which is covered with a combination of board-and-batten and flush board siding. The east barn is distinguished by a jerkinhead roof; the center section of which has collapsed. The remaining section of the roof retains its wood shingle cover. The edge of the roof is finished with an

(Continued)

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-395

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	
___ 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.

One of the principal agricultural landmarks in Wicomico County is the Homestead Dairy Farm on Nanticoke Road. Although the dairy operation long ago ceased to function, a significant portion of the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century farm complex remains intact. Located at the end of a tree-lined drive is a two-story farmhouse erected in staged between c. 1850 and the late 1880s. The center hall/single-pile main block dates around 1890 while the rear wing was built during the third quarter of the nineteenth century, probably around 1860. The farmhouse is surrounded by late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century farm buildings, principally two large barns and a brick dairy building. The board-and-batten barns, along with a smaller barn and a U-shaped implement storage sheds are all that survive from a vast complex including a score of barns, silos, and tenant houses. The brick dairy building is an unusual single-story gable roofed structure erected around 1920 and appears to have been adapted from popular domestic bungalow designs. The freight doors on the south and west sides clearly point to its use as a storage structure for the once extensive milk supply.

William H. Jackson, one of the wealthiest men residing in Salisbury during the late nineteenth century, created this extensive agricultural estate which he passed on to his son, William P. Jackson, in 1915 after his death..[1] An indication of the valuable buildings on the property as well as the animals housed within was conveyed in an article written for the *Salisbury Advertiser* when fire destroyed one of the barns, horses and mules as well as the various crops stored inside. The paper stated on April 8, 1893:

> *The large cattle and hay barn on Mr. Wm H. Jackson's Rockawalking farm was burned to the ground Thursday morning.*
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> *The farm is tenanted by Mr. Stanford Culver, and shortly after 4 o'clock Thursday morning Dank Melson and George Williams, employees of Mr. Culver, took a lighted lantern and went to the barn to*

[1] Wicomico County Register of Wills, JWD 1/68, proved 20 April 1915.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WI-395

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____ **Quadrangle scale** _____

UTM **References** do NOT complete UTM references

A	Zone	Easting	Northing	B	Zone	Easting	Northing
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	Private Consultant	**date**	6/22/99
street & number	P. O. Box 5	**telephone**	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	**state**	Maryland 21871

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

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

PS-2746

extended eave and closed soffit. The barns are joined by a flat roofed wagon bay, although the roof of the wagon bay has deteriorated. Large double-door openings provide access to the barn interiors, which are lighted by six-over-six sash windows. Hay mow doors mark the gable end of each barn.

On the north side of the two barns is a U-shaped frame wagon shed structure that formerly served as the base to a larger barn grouping. The wagon sheds are sheathed with board-and-batten siding, and the modified gable roofs are covered with tin.

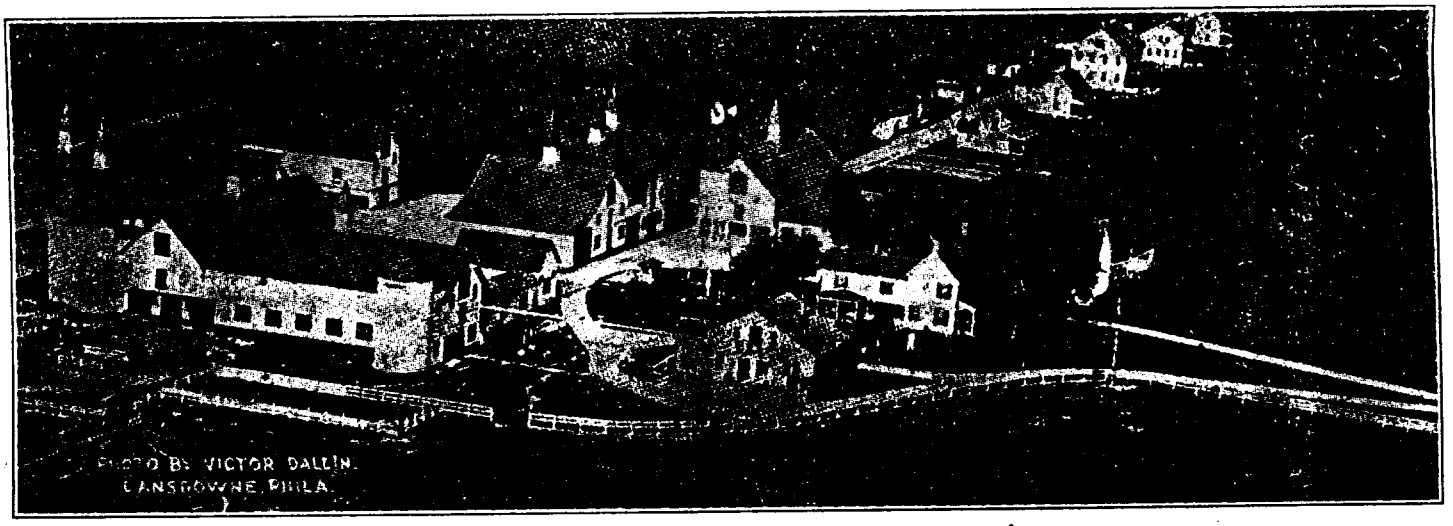
Standing west of the farmhouse is an early twentieth-century brick dairy building of seven-course common bond walls and a medium pitched, asphalt shingle gable roof. The design of the dairy building appears to be a modified form of an early twentieth-century bungalow. The three-bay south elevation, sheltered by a shed roofed porch, is pierced by a side entrance and paired six-over-six sash windows. The east gable end of the dairy is defined by a center entrance and paired sixteen-over-one sash windows distinguished by segmental rowlock arches. The partially glazed side door has a twelve-light transom. Six-over-six sash windows light the second floor. Finishing the edge of the roof is an extended eave. Rising off center through the roof is an interior brick stove chimney. The west end is defined by a concrete ramp that leads to freight door openings on the first floor. Another freight door provides access to the second floor as well. A cat head timber hoist protrudes from the gable end. The west end is pierced by paired sixteen-over-one sash windows. The north (rear) wall of the dairy has a gable roofed frame extension that includes a freight entrance.

W. P. JACKSON, Owner

Golden Guernsey Milk and Cream

WI-395

GUY E. HARMON, Manager



REGISTERED
GUERNSEY
CATTLE

HOMESTEAD DAIRY FARM

REGISTERED
BERKSHIRE
HOGS

HERD FEDERAL ACCREDITED

SALISBURY, MARYLAND

WI-395
Homestead Dairy Farm
27798 Nanticoke Road
Salisbury vicinity, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

1161/498	Confirmatory Deed by Homestead Dairy Farm, Inc.
	to
10/25/1988	E. S. Adkins and Company
IDT 174/365	William P. Jackson Katherine S. Jackson
	to
6/21/1932	Homestead Dairy Farm, Inc.
Will Book JWD 1/68	Last Will and Testament of William H. Jackson
	to, son
Written 11/27/1914 Proved 4/20/1915	William P. Jackson "The Rider Farm"
FMS 1/69	Elihu E. Jackson and wife
	to
1/2/1886	William H. Jackson Items First and Second First: Rider Farm 159 acres Second: 38 acres

FMS 1/98	Clayton Phippin
	to
1/2/1886	William H. Jackson "High Suffolk"
FMS 1/97	Jay Williams, trustee
	to
1/8/1886	William H. Jackson $900 64 1/4 acres "Addition to Whittington's Chance" "Maddux's Discovery"
FMS 1/467	Thomas C. Morris
	to
10/2/1886	William H. Jackson 2 acres, 3 roods, 3 4/10 perches sold for the purpose of straightening the road
FMS 1/487	Milton A. Parsons
	to
10/10/1886	William H. Jackson 28 perches

FMS 7/149	E. Stanley Toadvine, trustee
	to
2/28/1891	William H. Jackson Decree of Circuit Court $1550
JTT 29/38	Algernon Taylor, et al.
	to
1/23/1901	William H. Jackson 20.3 acres
JTT 29/39	George H. Taylor Annie V. Taylor
	to
1/23/1901	William H. Jackson $120 8 acres
JTT 29/77	Elihu J. Pusey Mary B. Pusey
	to
2/11/1901	William H. Jackson 1/8 acre....being a portion of the land formerly owned by Icabod Taylor, deceased

WI-395

Salisbury Advertiser, April 8, 1893

Heavy Loss By Fire

Barn, Live Stock, Grain, Hay, and Wheat, Straw Burned

The large cattle and hay barn on Mr. Wm H. Jackson's Rockawalking farm was burned to the ground Thursday morning.

The farm is tenanted by Mr. Stanford Culver, and shortly after 4 o'clock Thursday morning Dank Melson and George Williams, employees of Mr. Culver, took a lighted lantern and went to the barn to feed the stock. After feeding the teams, which were in the barn nearest the dwelling, they went to the barn which stands, or rather did stand, in the rear of the barn where the work animals were. In the rear barn, which was 160 by 80 feet, there were fifteen cows, five calves, five young horses, five colts, three mules and about 180 sheep and lambs. On the second floor were 425 bushels of wheat, 260 bushels of oats, about 40 tons of hay and two stacks of fodder. The men had gone to the second floor and thrown a quantity of hay down into the passage below and were feeding the animals when the lantern, which was setting on a partition, was knocked over by the fork hand in the hands of one of the men into a stall occupied by a mule. The bedding was of dry oat straw put in the stall a few days before, and the burning oil ignited this. In an instant a flame shot up and spread rapidly from stall to stall and in an incredibly short time the whole interior of the barn was on fire. The men fought desperately but the combustible nature of the bedding and the lack of water, made the case hopeless. Realizing the situation they endeavored to removed the livestock. The cows submitted to being led peaceably out and the sheep gave no trouble but the horses and mules were so terrified that they refused to leave their boxes and perished in the flames, except a fine young horse and a Texan mule which staggered from the burning building after they were almost burned to death. They were afterward killed. About fifty-three stacks of wheat straw which stood back of the barn, and a stock of fodder in the field, were burned.

Mr. Culver, who had not risen when the fire started, was startled from his slumbers by the noise of the fire and the doomed animals, and hurried from his bed to the scene. His presence could not avail to save the property.

All stock lost belonged to Mr. Culver and consisted of the five young horses, five colts, three mules and five calves. Mr. Jackson had $2,500 insurance on the barn and $2,000 on the wheat, oats and hay and other provender. The risks were placed by Messrs. Rider & Gordy, and are divided equally in the Pennsylvania Fire of Phila., and the Firemen's Association of Phila.

Mr. Jackson's actual loss will be light, but the fire proved a disaster to Mr. Culver. He had just purchased the young horses and mules from his brother, who brought them recently from the West. Only one of the farm animals, a mule, was burned. Mr. Culver's loss on the stock amounts to about $1400. Only a green coat of paint saved the other barn from burning. It seemed to be on fire once. Had it burned the dwelling would surely have gone.

> *feed the stock. After feeding the teams, which were in the barn closest to the dwelling, they went to the barn which stands, or rather did stand, in the rear of the barn [yard] where the work animals were. In the rear barn, which was 160 feet by 80 feet, there were fifteen cows, five calves, five young horses, five colts, three mules and about 180 sheep and lambs. On the second floor were 425 bushels of wheat, 260 bushels of oats, about 40 tons of hay and two stacks of fodder. The men had gone to the second floor and thrown a quantity of hay down the passage below and were feeding the animals when the lantern, which was setting on a partition, was knocked over by the fork handle in the hands of one of the men into a stall occupied by a mule. The bedding was of dry oat straw put in the stall a few days before, and the burning oil ignited this. In an instant a flame shot up and spread rapidly from stall to stall and in an incredibly short time the whole interior of the barn was on fire.*[2]

Most of the cows and sheep cooperated during the confusion and were led safely out of the burning barns, however the horses and mules were so terrified that they would not leave their stalls. They perished in the blaze along much the grain crops and stocks of fodder in the field. The tenant farmer, Stanford Culver, owned most of the livestock that was killed in the blaze. It was judged at the time that a new coat of paint on the barn nearest the house saved it from destruction.

During the early twentieth century the extensive dairy operation at Homestead was a principal supplier of milk for the residents of Salisbury. In later years the farm was held by John T. Holt, president of Homestead Dairy Farm, Inc.[3]

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[2] *Salisbury Advertiser*, April 8, 1893.

[3] Wicomico County Land Record, Confirmatory Deed, 1161/498, 25 October 1988.

WI-395
Homestead Dairy Farm
Salisbury vicinity

Lake, Griffing and Stevenson Atlas
1877

WI-395
Homestead Dairy Farm
27798 Nanticoke Road
Salisbury vicinity, Wicomico County

Eden, Maryland Quadrangle
1983