Survey No. CH-621

Maryland Historical Trust
Inventory of Historic Properties Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Poppleton

and/or common Wakefield (preferred name)

2. Location

street & number 11090 Mount Victoria Road ___ **not for publication**

city, town Newburg _X_ **vicinity of** **congressional district**

state Maryland **county** Charles

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	___yes: restricted	___government	___scientific
	_X_being considered	___yes: unrestricted	___industrial	___transportation
	___not applicable	_X_no	___military	___other:

[note - public acquisition of a portion of land along the Wicomico River for wetlands creation being considered]

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

name John R. and Marjorie S. Earnshaw

street & number 11090 Mount Victoria Road (PO Box 777) **telephone no.** 301-259-0531

city, town Newburg **state and zip code** Maryland 20664

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse **liber** 1566

street & number Charles Street **folio** 388

city, town La Plata **state** Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title not previously surveyed

date ___**federal** ___**state** ___**county** ___**local**

depository for survey records

city, town **state**

7. Description

Survey No. CH-621

Condition		**Check one**	**Check one**
X excellent	___deteriorated	___unaltered	X original site
___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.

Summary

Wakefield is an extended one- and two-story dwelling covered in weatherboards and topped by seam metal roofs. The cladding and roofing, and similarity in scale of two of the wings, add some visual cohesion to a structure that had at least three principal periods of construction. The oldest sections of the house are the two-story, frame central block, which utilizes a single-pile center-hall plan, and its one-story, single-pile log, east wing. These may have been built at the same time in the mid nineteenth-century or in two or more different, earlier periods. The modest Greek Revival-style finish, at least, of the central block appears to date from the 1850s. The large west wing and far east wing are modern additions. The property, which encompasses 138.6 acres extending from Mt. Victoria Road to the Wicomico River, includes in addition to the house a small number of modern subsidiary resources and two nineteenth or early twentieth tobacco barns. Once farmland, only a small part of it is now under cultivation.

[see continuation sheets 7.1 and 7.3 for a description of the house, its subsidiary resources, and its grounds]

8. Significance

Survey No. CH-621

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	
_X_1800-1899	__commerce	__exploration/settlement	__philosophy	__theater
_X_1900-	__communications	__industry	__politics/government	__transportation
		__invention		__other(specify)

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

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.

Summary

The central block and east wing of Wakefield are its earliest components. They were standing in the 1850s when the property was owned by John H.D. Wingate and may have been built by him. They may also have been built, perhaps in sections, by James Burroughs, from whom Wingate acquired much of his estate, or by an earlier unidentified owner. The dwelling has been altered and added to extensively since the 1960s by its last two owners and now looks more like a late twentieth-century estate house than a mid nineteenth-century farmhouse. Wakefield is not believed to be eligible for National Register listing under any of the Register's Criteria. It is not known to have any historical significance (Criterion A) or association with significant persons (Criterion B) and it is not believed that the standing structure is likely to yield any important information not discernable through the study of documents or Charles County's many other more intact historic dwellings (Criterion D). Because of the house's substantial additions and alterations, it is believed to have lost its integrity in terms of Criterion C and is therefore also believed to be ineligible for National Register listing on the basis of its architecture.

[see continuation sheets 8.1 through 8.7 for a history and evaluation of Wakefield]

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended_____ **Eligibility not recommended** X

Comments

Reviewer, OPS: Anne E. Bruder **Date:** 5/1/2001

Reviewer, NR Program: Peter King **Date:** 5/2/01

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CH-621

CH-621

[see continuation sheets 9.1 and for major bibliographical references]

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 Marvin A. Brown, Senior Architectural Historian

organization URS Greiner Woodward Clyde, Inc. **date** September 1999

street & number 3109 Poplarwood Court, Suite 310 **telephone** 919-876-2760

city or town Raleigh **state** North Carolina 27604

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**
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

Description

The front (south) section of Wakefield's central block is two stories tall, one room deep, and four bays wide. It has a gable-end roof and two interior-end brick chimneys. Its four bays are not symmetrically placed. Two windows and a doorway topped by a rectangular transom occupy the west portion of front facade. To the east of the entry is an additional window bay. These openings now serve a central hallway with a room to either side. The irregular placement of the bays suggests that perhaps the block once consisted of the three-bay portion on the west, with a two-room interior plan.[1] Across the rear (north) of the block is a one-story, shed-roofed extension. It has three bays, with a central doorway, topped by a rectangular transom, that does not quite line up with the front entry. The same simple surrounds, where intact, frame the bays of the two-story block and the rear shed. This suggests that this portion of the house was all built at the same time or that the shed and west bay were added at the same time. The two-story block and shed retain many original weatherboards. The shutters are not original, but the three windows of the first-story front facade retain early or original pintels and shutter dogs. These three windows, which have six-over-six sash, are the only ones that survive intact. The second-story windows and those of the shed room now have one-over-one sash with inserts that create the illusion of six-over-six sash. (One of the central rear upstairs windows has been replaced by a smaller four-over-four sash window.) The front and rear doors are also not original. Further exterior changes to this portion of the house include the rebuilding of the chimney stacks; the addition of a relatively modern seam metal roof; and, most notably, the construction of a modern Colonial Revival-style porch across the front facade.

Inside the two-story block is a center hallway with a straight run of stairs, a heavy turned newel and turned balusters, and decorative stairends that may in part date from the mid nineteenth century. The individual rooms to either side of the hall retain straightforward, Greek Revival-style, post-and-lintel mantels and molded door surrounds with rectangular blocks at their bases. The rear (north) walls of these rooms have been cut open to open the block into the rear shed. A narrower post-and-lintel mantel survives in at least one of the two upstairs bedrooms.

Attached to the east end of the two-story block is a one-story, one-room-deep, gable-end kitchen wing. Four bays wide, it terminates at its east end in a wide, exterior-end, brick chimney. This wing has been much altered, but is one of the oldest sections of the house. If the two-story block was built in two sections, this wing was likely freestanding at one time. The width of its chimney and a slightly sagging ridge line are two indications of the wing's age. According to Marjorie Earnshaw (1999), when she and her husband extensively modernized the kitchen in the early 1990s they cut an opening in the rear wall, exposing a log core. (The current kitchen interior bears no resemblance to the one partially described in a deed of 1956, discussed at the significance section below.) The logs are probably relatively modest in scale, for the walls are not deep. Mrs. Earnshaw also noted that the chimney retained its iron cooking hardware, from which a large pot still depended. This has been removed and the chimney heavily repointed and partially rebuilt. The room off the rear of the kitchen was added, according to Mrs. Earnshaw, as a porch by Albert and

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[1] This two-room plan could have been akin to a hall-parlor plan or to the three-bay, side-passage plan that became popular in Charles County in the early nineteenth century. Rivoire (1990:23, 152-161), in his architectural history of the county, notes that the side-passage plan was most popular at two-room-deep houses, but was utilized at single-pile dwellings as well. Crouche's Gift, Hollycut, and Johnsontown, all built in the first half of the nineteenth century, bear some resemblance in form, exterior appearance, and/or plan to Wakefield. Rivoire (1990:25) further notes, however, that the center-hall plan--which the central block currently utilizes--also became a common part of the county's architectural landscape beginning in the early nineteenth century.

Virginia Adams, who owned the property from 1963 until selling it to the Earnshaws in 1991. The Earnshaws have since fully enclosed the porch, creating another room at the kitchen's rear. In addition to the already described alterations to the kitchen wing, all or virtually all of its weatherboards have been replaced; it is capped by the same modern metal seam roof as the rest of the house; and the sash of its four front windows has been replaced, as have three of the four surrounds.

The wing to the west of the two-story block appears, from the front, to be largely in scale with the kitchen wing. It is, however, a modern structure added by the Adamses. It is one-story tall and two bays wide, with a gable-end roof at its front portion. The wing's rear portion extends well beyond the shed-roofed section of the central block and turns its gable towards the rear. The Earnshaws have added an additional substantial wing to the east end of the house. Affixed to the kitchen wing by a narrow hyphen, it has a large principal room lit by tall windows and open to a cathedral ceiling. The wing rises over a full basement that at the rear and east side of the block give it a two-story appearance.

With the exception, perhaps, of the slightly sagging ridge line of the kitchen wing, the house appears to be in excellent condition. This has come at the expense, however, of much of its original historic fabric and appearance.

Wakefield encompasses 138.6 acres, which has been the approximate size of the parcel since 1914.[2] The parcel is long, extending from Mount Victoria road on the south all the way back to the Wicomico River on the north. It is relatively narrow at the road, reflecting the cutting off of some property upon which a modern ranch house now stands. It widens at the center and narrows again to some extent at the river. A gravel lane flanked by junipers and soybean fields leads from the road north toward the house. (The property's cultivated fields are rented. It is no longer a farm and its two tobacco barns, described below, are used for storage rather than tobacco curing.) In front of the house the lane makes a circle from which it extends two tendrils, one to the west out to a tobacco barn and one to east toward a second tobacco barn. This eastern branch turns north before reaching the barn and runs down from the rise upon which the house is located to the river. The house is surrounded by a grassy lawn, but as the land rolls down toward the river the lawn is supplanted by grassy pasture land, smalls stretches of wood and, near the river, a band of soybeans. The gravel road terminates at a small modern dock at the river.

In addition to the house [A on sketch map], there are seven standing resources on the property. West of the house, at the end of one of the extensions of the gravel lane, is a tobacco barn [B]. A relatively shallow gable-front structure, it is clad in vertical boards spaced to allow air to reach the tobacco. A modern shed is affixed to its south side. The barn is framed with hand-hewn, modestly proportioned, mortised-and-tenoned timbers that, although altered and shifted in spots, appear to be original. The barn is likely one of the two barns mentioned in an auction advertisement for the property placed in the *Port Tobacco Times* of August 12, 1877. It is deteriorated, but appears to be structurally sound. Between the barn and the house, on the north side of the lane, are two outbuildings. A tiny, gable-front, frame building [C] was once utilized as an office by the Adamses (Earnshaw 1999). The building has three front (south) bays--a central six-panel door with opaque glass in its upper panels and flanking four-over-four sash. It has a corrugated-metal roof and corrugated-metal siding as well. Plaster appears to finish its inside. It probably predates the Adamses, who did not acquire the property until 1963, but its date of construction and original use were not determined.

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[2] The 138.6 acres exempt a 1.1-acre parcel occupied by a Baptist cemetery. This exemption goes back to the nineteenth century, when a Baptist church was established on the parcel. An October 17, 1879, letter in the *Port Tobacco Times* notes that a tiny Baptist congregation had been established there about a half-century earlier.

Continuation Sheet 7.3/Description Wakefield, Charles County

Just east of the office is a modern, frame, one-story garage sided with composition board and topped by a corrugated-metal, gable-end roof [D]. Behind the house is a modern in-ground swimming pool [E]. East of the house are two tiny modern garden sheds, built to resemble the office [F and G]. Sided with weatherboards and topped by gabled metal roofs, they are set in a wooden-fenced flower garden. East of the garden and the eastern extension of the gravel lane is a second tobacco barn [H]. A long, gabled, frame structure, it is sided with vertical boards that swing up in sections for the air curing of tobacco. It may be the other barn mentioned in the 1877 advertisement, although it is not as old as the other barn on the property and may date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. It is closed up, but appears to be in good condition.

History

The name Wakefield, given to this property by its most recent owners, John and Marjorie Earnshaw, is derived from one of the historic names of the property. The Earnshaws' 1991 deed (see Chain of Title table for all deed references) notes that the parcel was commonly known as Part of Poppleton, Part of Wakefield, and Part of Ratsdale. Wakefield was chosen, according to Mrs. Earnshaw (1999), because Poppleton is already in use and Ratsdale was unappealing. While the current Wakefield was referred to as Poppleton by 1851 (*Port Tobacco Times*, September 3, 1851), its property at that time encompassed parts of the three named tracts and its original historic name is uncertain.[3]

Deeds, estate records, and newspaper articles do not indicate when the current house on the property was erected, though they do provide a wealth of information about its ownership, particularly in the mid and late nineteenth century. The dwelling's current appearance dates from two periods--the late twentieth century and the mid nineteenth century. The surveyor, however, did not have access to its inner structure and at its core the building may predate the mid-nineteenth century. This history discusses those who owned it during its apparent dates of construction or renovation.[4]

The modest, mid-nineteenth-century, Greek Revival-style finish of the central block of the house likely dates from the ownership of the property by John H.D. Wingate or, perhaps, by James Burroughs. James Burroughs died in 1847, leaving four children--Mary A., Susan or Susanna E., James H.M., and Thomas F.--and no wife. His will (Charles County Will Book DJ 15, Page 429) devised bedroom furniture to the four and his 140-acre "plantation" that was "known by the name of 'Poppleton'...." As the will only references a single piece of property, it would seem probable that Burroughs and his family were living on Poppleton, likely in the current dwelling. However, other evidence suggests that there was no house on the property when he died or that it was cut off from the parcel.

In 1851 the Charles County court of equity, which had jurisdiction over Burroughs' estate because his orphaned children were "infants" (that is, had not yet reached their majority), ordered that Poppleton be sold for the benefit of the children. John H. Burroughs, James Burroughs' brother, was appointed "next friend" of the children and Frederick Stone their attorney and guardian ad litem. The property, described as encompassing 147 acres, was assessed at $9.25/acre. The court ordered it sold at the courthouse in Port Tobacco for a sum equal to or exceeding its value, which totaled about $1,360. The advertisement for the property sale (*Port Tobacco Times*, September 3 and 10, 1851) noted that the real estate of the late James Burroughs was to be auctioned and that "[t]his farm lies on the Wicomico river, in Pickawaxon--very healthy, in an agreeable neighborhood, productive, in good repair, and in every way desireable." Nothing in the court record, and nothing in the advertisement, makes any reference to a house upon the property. Only land is valued, by the acre, suggesting that either there was no house on the land or that the house was somehow split off from the property. (Other advertisements in the local newspaper reference not just land, but houses and outbuildings.) James Burroughs did indeed have a house. On June 17, a few months before his real estate was sold, his personal estate had been auctioned off by order of the county orphans court

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[3] Rev. Matthew Hill, who was ministering to Charles County's Presbyterians by 1669, obtained a grant for an estate called Popleton in the late seventeenth century (Klapthor and Brown 1958:36-37). The earliest history of the Wakefield and Ratsdale estates was not determined.

[4] Assigning a date to the house on the basis of deed research is problematic. The current owners believe, on the basis of their review of the deeds, that it was erected c.1841.

(Charles County Account of Sales, August Term, 1847). The property included some livestock and limited farm implements, a 50-year-old slave named Judy, and a multitude of household goods, including six sets of bedroom furniture. In short, it is unclear from the written record whether James Burroughs' house was the current house.

John H.D. Wingate bought the 147-acre Poppleton plantation at the October 7, 1851, auction for $2,000. He was not one of the many different purchasers of Burroughs' personal property, suggesting that there was no house on the land he bought or, perhaps, that he did not live close by. He subsequently bought four additional contiguous parcels: 44 acres described as part of Wakefield and Ratsdale from Eleanor Robertson in 1858; 98 acres, also called Poppleton, from John H. and Elizabeth Burroughs in 1859; an 11-acre part of Wakefield from Philip and Sarah Contee and Sarah Blake in 1866; and a 5-acre parcel, also probably part of Wakefield, from James Marks in 1878.[5] Wingate was living on the 147-acre Poppleton tract when he made the first of these additional purchases in 1858. (The deed from Eleanor Robertson references the adjoining farm of Wingate.) He is the first individual who can be definitely placed in the house and likely gave its central block its Greek Revival-style finish.[6] More than providing the finish, he may also been the house's builder.

Reference to John H.D. Wingate is first known to have appeared in the pages of the *Port Tobacco Times and Charles County Advertiser* in March, 1853, when he was appointed one of the administrators of the estate of Henry Wingate (Wearmouth 1990:135). He was a prominent citizen of his corner of Charles County. His public and semi-public positions from the late 1860s through the late 1880s included serving on grand and petit juries, selling property by court appointment, acting as a road commissioner, attending county Democratic and Conservative conventions as a delegate, and spending many years as one of his district's election judges (Wearmouth 1991, 1993, 1996, 1998). An 1879 letter discussing the history of the Good Hope Baptist Church adjacent to his property attached the honorific "Esq." to his name (Wearmouth 1996:46-47).

The household of John H.D. Wingate's farm was small. In 1860, according to the federal census, its white members included Wingate (spelled Wingatt), a 48-year-old farmer; his wife, Henrietta, also 48; and two children, Thomas, who was 18, and Alice, who was nine. The population schedule assessed the value of his real estate at $7,000 and his personal estate at $6,000. Wingate's seven slaves probably formed the bulk of the value of his personal estate. He owned three adults, a 35-year-old man, a 25-year-old man, and a 20-year-old woman; a 17-year-old boy; and three children, a four-year-boy, a two-year-old boy, and a male infant. The agricultural schedule for Allens Fresh District, in which Wingate's land was located, notes that, like most of his fellow white Charles Countians, his livelihood was largely drawn from tobacco. He owned modest numbers of livestock (horses, mules, milk cows, cattle, oxen, and swine) and harvested 720 bushels of wheat and 500 bushels of Indian corn, but he must have turned most of his attention, and that of his slaves, to producing 12,000 pounds of tobacco. His farm in 1860, according to the agricultural schedule, had 200 acres that were improved and 70 that were not.

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[5] John H. Burroughs was the brother of James Burroughs. His portion of Poppleton, however, does not appear to have been owned by James. He acquired it from John and Catherine Penn in 1851 and it was part of the lands of James Dutton, whose estate owned it in 1843.

[6] The *Port Tobacco Times* places Wingate in "Piccawaxen," one of the early names for the area in which the Wakefield is located, by September 17, 1855, when his oldest daughter, 21-year-old M. Elizabeth Wingate, died there (Wearmouth 1991:16 (abstracting issue of October 4, 1855)).

In 1870 Wingate's household was reduced to three; daughter Alice no longer lived there. He of course no longer held anyone in slavery, which probably explains the reduction of his personal estate from $6,000 to $1,500. (The value of his real estate had remained steady at $7,000.) The agricultural schedule for 1870 is illegible, but the 1880 schedule suggests that little changed agriculturally while Wingate owned the farm.

The Wingate household in 1880 continued to consist of John, Henrietta or Harriet, and son Thomas, with the addition of a 15-year-old black servant named John Hawkins whose occupation was listed as "waiter." The farm was still largely a tobacco farm, apparently producing (the script of the census taker is not clear) 9,000 pounds of tobacco. The farm also produced 725 bushels of Indian corn, 300 bushels of wheat, and supported a small number of cattle, milk cows, oxen, and barnyard fowl. Hired labor worked the farm 52 weeks a year; according to the census Wingate was 69 in 1880 and his son 39, so help must have been necessary. The property reportedly consisted of 180 tilled acres, a decline of ten percent from 1870; seven acres of meadows, pastures, and the like; and 126 acres of woodland and forest. Perhaps because of the large amount of unimproved land and frontage on the wetlands and waters of the Wicomico River, the property was attractive to hunters and others. On November 7, 1871, Wingate published an admonitory notice in the *Port Tobacco Times*: "I HEREBY forewarn all persons not to trespass upon my farm "Poppleton," with or without dog or gun. The law will be rigidly enforced against all who disregard this notice."

John H.D. Wingate died in 1887. In his will, he left his property to his wife, Harriet and $100 to his daughter, Alice, the wife of John T. Dutton. He also directed that his estate pay off a note of $2,000 to his son, James. Wingate's financial situation was precarious near the end of his life. In addition to the $2,000 he owed his son, he had taken out mortgages on Poppleton from Thomas H. Ching in 1885 and 1886 (Charles County Deed Book JST 1, Page 22). By court order, his personal property was auctioned in August, 1887. An advertisement of the sale noted that the personal property included "Household and Kitchen Furniture, Horses, Cattle, Flock of Sheep, Corn Sheller, Wheat Drill, Carts, Wagon, Carriage, Buggy, Plows, Harrows, Cultivators and other Implements usually found on a well stocked farm" (*Port Tobacco Advertiser*, August 12, 1887). The account of sale detailed these items, which included three bedsteads (Charles County Account of Sales, December Term, 1887). None of the household items were of any great value: two $6.50 carpets were the most expensive objects in the house. The goods of greatest value were an assortment of horses, sheep, pigs, and cows.

By virtue of the two mortgages to Ching, Wingate's real property was ordered to by auctioned on January 3, 1888. An advertisement of the sale, in the December 16, 1887, issue of the *Port Tobacco Times*, described the property as "All that tract or parcel of land situated on the Wicomico River, in Charles county, known as "Poppleton," of which the late John H.D. Wingate died, seized and possessed, adjoining the lands of John T. Dutton [Wingate's son-in-law], Miss Margaret Scheirburn and others, and containing 300 Acres, more or less. This land is improved by a Dwelling House, nearly new and in firstclass condition, two Barns, Stable, Carriage House, Corn Houses and other necessary outbuildings all in first class order and condition." Unlike the 1851 advertisement for the sale of James Burroughs' property, this notice clearly indicates that the property included a house, as well as other buildings. The notice may engage in some puffery, for even if Wingate had indeed built the house in the 1850s, rather than adding to and renovating an earlier structure, it would have been a stretch to call an approximately 35-year-old house "nearly new."

The immediate disposition of Wingate's real property is unclear, but by 1899 300 acres called Poppleton and part of Wakefield and Ratsdale--Wingate's Poppleton farm--were in the hands of William and Rebecca Henderson. They sold the land to Thomas and James Warden in 1899 and by 1937, when the property left the Warden family, it had been reduced to its current 138.6 acres. From 1937 until 1963, the land passed through numerous hands. It was a tobacco farm with an occupied farmhouse at least until 1956, apparently.

CH-621

The deed of that year transferring it from Walter and Genevieve Schreiber to Dan Lawler notes that, in addition to the 138.6 acres, Lawler had purchased "all kitchen utensils and equipment, one wood range, one electric hot water heater, one electric refrigerator, one electric range, one electric pump, 1,000 feet more or less of lumber, one Farmall B tractor, one tractor cultivator, tractor plows, one horse mower, one field rake, one wood saw, 8,000 more or less tobacco sticks, [and] approximately 45 sheet of galvanized roofing."

In 1963 the property was purchased by Albert and Virginia Adams, Washington lawyers who initially utilized the house as a second home. The house had fallen onto hard times by then, its kitchen used as a granary. The Adamses, who ultimately moved to the house, renovated it. In addition to cleaning it up and removing its grain, they added the large west wing and a porch behind (north of) the east kitchen wing. They also established an office in a tiny frame building to the west of the house, between its garage and one of its tobacco barns (Earnshaw 1999). John and Marjorie Earnshaw, who acquired the property in 1991, took the house through a major renovation. They added a large modern wing at its east end and completely modernized the kitchen occupying the early east wing. While cutting a large rear opening in the kitchen wing, which leads to the former porch room that they enclosed, they determined that the wing was of log construction.

CHAIN OF TITLE
(minor and inter-owner transfers not included)

GRANTEE	GRANTOR	ACREAGE	CHARLES COUNTY DEED/BOOK	YEAR
John & Marjorie Earnshaw	Albert & Virginia Adams and Lynn A. Clark, trustee	138.6	1566/388	1991
Albert & Virginia Adams	Dan & Marilyn Lawler	138.6	165/227	1963
Dan Lawler	Walter & Genevieve Schreiber	138.6	123/156	1956
Walter & Genevieve Schreiber	E. Roy & Helen Bergholz	138.6	PCM 94/41	1951
E. Roy & Helen Bergholz	John & Emma Palmer	138.6	PCM 86/166	1947
John & Emma Palmer	William & Edith Lloyd	138.6	WMA 75/218	1941
William & Edith Lloyd	James & Elizabeth Warden	138.6	WMA 66/351	1937
James & Elizabeth Warden	Thomas & Nellie Warden	½ of land acquired by Thomas & James Warden in 1899	HCC 27/130	1914
CHAIN OF TITLE (continued)				
GRANTEE	**GRANTOR**	**ACREAGE**	**CHARLES COUNTY DEED/BOOK**	**YEAR**

Thomas & James Warden	William & Rebecca Henderson	300, called Poppleton, part of Wakefield & Ratsdale	BGS 9/603	1899
????	Estate of John H.D. Wingate	300, called Popleton	*Port Tobacco Times*, Aug. 12 & Dec. 16, 1887	c.1888
John H.D. Wingate	James Marks	5	BGS 3/336	1878
John H.D. Wingate	Philip & Sarah Contee and Sarah Blake	11, part of Wakefield	GAH 1/107	1866
John H.D. Wingate	John H. & Elizabeth Burroughs	98, called Poppleton	JHC 1/194	1859
(John H. Burroughs)	(John and Catherine Penn)	(97 - Lot 1 of lands of James Dutton (March term, 1843 Equity Case))	(RHM 1/225)	(1851)
John H.D. Wingate	Eleanor Robertson	45, part of Wakefield & Ratsdale	JHC 1/42	1858
(Eleanor Robertson)	(John & Elizabeth Stodert)	(145 - Poppleton; 166 - Mitchell; 45 - part of Wakefield & Ratsdale)	(JS 1/225)	(1858)
John H.D. Wingate	Estate of James Burroughs, Trustee Frederick Stone	148, called Poppleton	JS 1/337	1855

Evaluation

Wakefield is not believed to be eligible for National Register listing under any of the Register's Criteria. It is not believed to be significant under Criterion A, for it is not known to have been associated with any significant historical events. John H.D. Wingate was of some local note in his section of Charles County, but does not rise to the level of significance necessary for Wakefield to be eligible under Criterion B for its association with him. The standing house is also not believed to be eligible under Criterion D. Many houses that are far more intact, with a greater likelihood of yielded important information on the construction and appearance of the county's early architecture, survive throughout Charles County. Many of these have been studied in great detail, with telling results, by J. Richard Rivoire and others (Rivoire 1990; Maryland Historical Trust 1980). Historical records are also available that yield information on the county's early architecture.

Wakefield's greatest potential for National Register eligibility would be for its architecture under Criterion C. However, within this area of significance, it is believed to have lost its integrity. Changes to the house in the last half of the twentieth century have been numerous and major. These include the addition of the large west wing; the removal of parts of the rear walls of the two-story central block, opening it to the rear shed; the complete modernization of the east kitchen and its chimney; the addition of a room behind the kitchen wing; the construction of a large, prominent, modern wing to the east of the kitchen connected by a hyphen; the replacement or alteration of sash and surrounds at the two-story block; the replacement of weatherboards, sash, and surrounds at the kitchen wing; the covering of the entire dwelling with a seam metal roof; and the addition of the modern Colonial Revival-style front porch.

The house continues to occupy a prominence overlooking the Wicomico River, lawns and pasture land, and some fields of soybeans. Its immediate surroundings, however, have been impinged upon by a modern fenced garden and garden buildings, a modern garage, and an in-ground swimming pool. While the house retains excellent structural integrity and is immaculately maintained, its overall appearance is now more that of a late twentieth-century estate than a nineteenth-century vernacular farmhouse rising within fields of tobacco, wheat, and corn.

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN
STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXTS

I. Geographic Organization: Western Shore (Charles County)

II. Chronological/Development Periods:

Agricultural-Industrial Transition, 1815-1870
Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930
Modern Period, 1930-Present

III. Prehistoric Themes: (not addressed on this form)

IV. Historic Period Themes:

Agriculture
Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Buildings
Historic Environment: Rural
Historic Function and Use: Farm
Known Design Source: Unknown

Brown, Jack D., book coordinator
1976 *Charles County, Maryland, A History, Bicentennial Edition.* Charles County Bicentennial Committee.

Charles County Deeds and Equity Court Records. Charles County Register of Deeds Office, Charles County Courthouse, La Plata, Maryland.

Charles County Wills, Accounts of Sales, and Inventories. Charles County Register of Wills Office, Charles County Courthouse, La Plata, Maryland.

Census of the United States
1860 Population, agricultural, and slave schedules of the Eighth Census.

1870 Population schedule of the Ninth Census.

1880 Population and agricultural schedules of the Tenth Census.

Earnshaw, Marjorie
1999 Personal communication with owner of Wakefield, September 1, 1999.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown, and Paul Dennis Brown
1958 *The History of Charles County, Maryland, Written in it Tercentenary Year of 1958.* Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., La Plata, Maryland.

Maryland Historical Trust
1980 *Inventory of Historic Sites in Calvert County, Charles County and St. Mary's County.* Revised edition. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis.

Port Tobacco Times and Charles County Advertiser
1851 Advertisement for auction of real estate of James Burroughs, September 3 and 10, 1851.

1871 Notice of John H.D. Wingate warning trespassers on Poppleton farm, September 29, 1871.

1887a Advertisement for auction of personal property of John H.D. Wingate, August 12, 1887.

1887b Advertisement for auction of real estate of John H.D. Wingate, December 16, 1887.

Rivoire, J. Richard
1990 *Homeplaces: Traditional Domestic Architecture of Charles County, Maryland.* Southern Maryland Studies Center, Charles County Community College, La Plata, Maryland.

Wearmouth , Roberta J., compiler
1990 *Abstracts from the Port Tobacco Times and Charles County Advertiser, Vol. 1: 1844-1854.* Heritage Books, Inc., Bowie, Maryland.

1991 *Abstracts from the Port Tobacco Times and Charles County Advertiser, Volume Two: 1855-1869.* Heritage Books, Inc., Bowie, Maryland.
Wearmouth , Roberta J., compiler

CH-621

Continuation Sheet 9.2/Major Bibliographical References Wakefield, Charles County

1993 *Abstracts from the Port Tobacco Times and Charles County Advertiser, Volume Three: 1870-1875.* Heritage Books, Inc., Bowie, Maryland.

1996 *Abstracts from the Port Tobacco Times and Charles County Advertiser, Volume Four: 1876-1884.* Heritage Books, Inc., Bowie, Maryland.

1998 *Abstracts from the Port Tobacco Times and Charles County Advertiser, Volume Five: 1885-1893.* Heritage Books, Inc., Bowie, Maryland.

CH-621

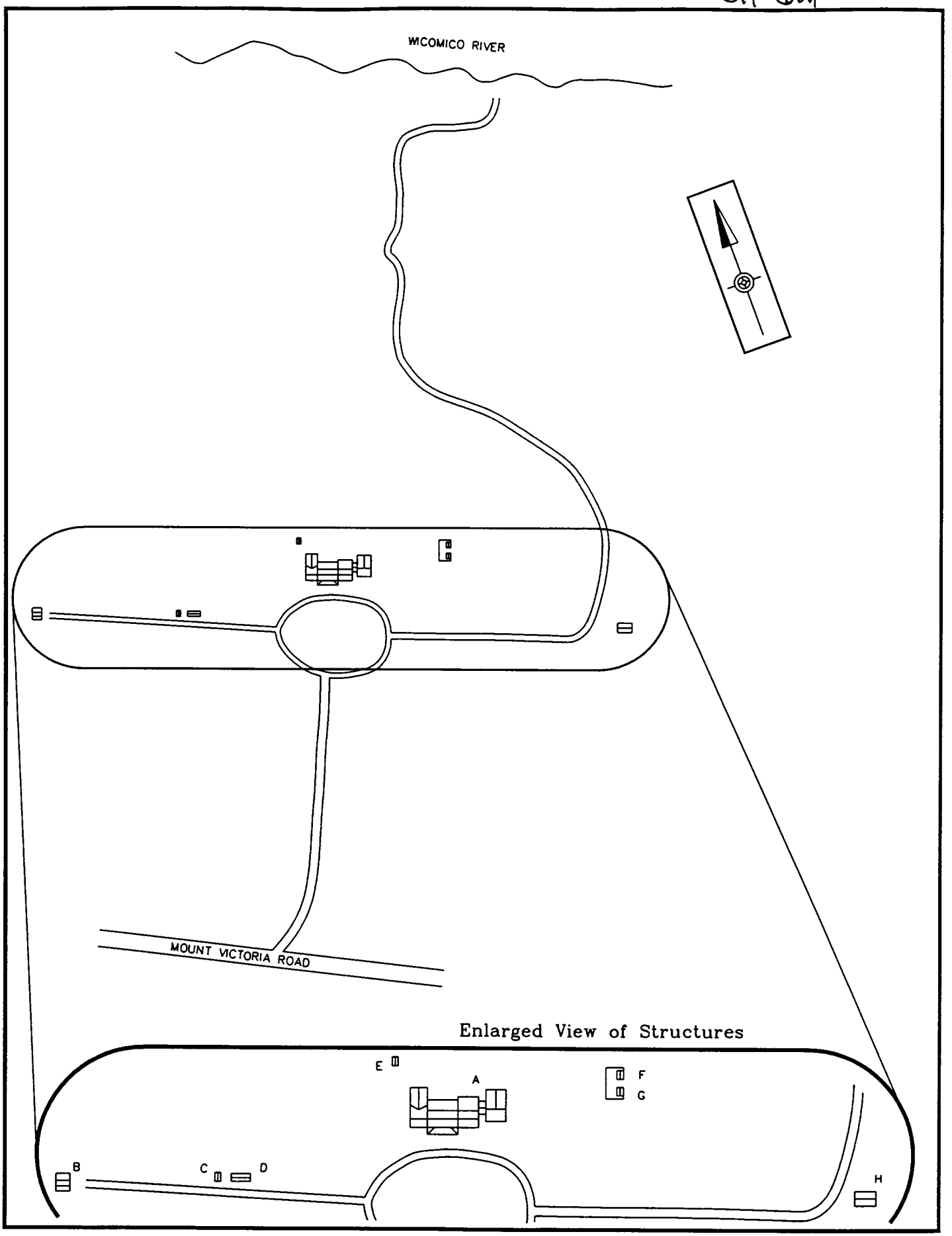
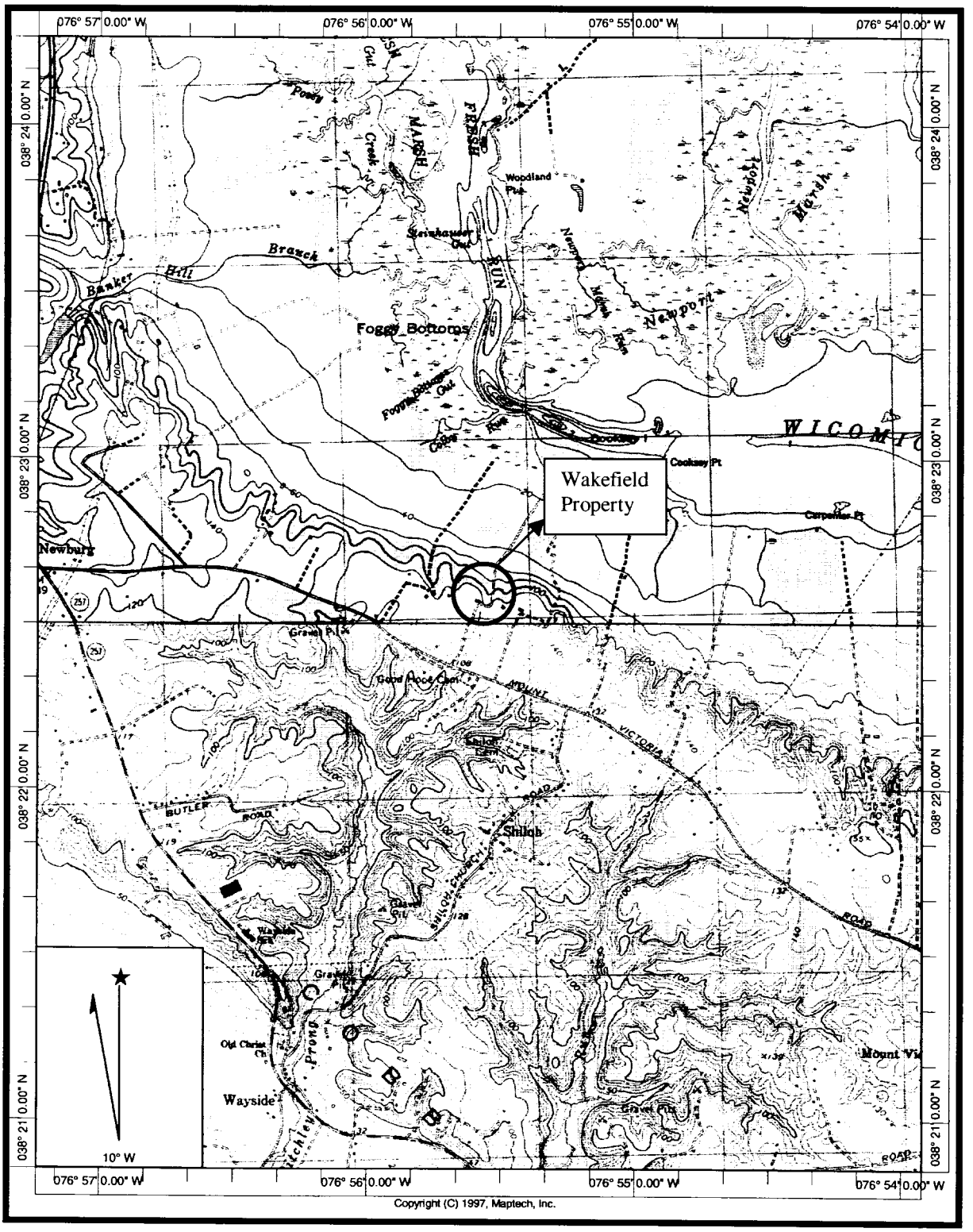


Figure 1 Wakefield – Sketch Map of Historic Resources

NO SCALE

CH-621



Section of 7.5 minute Pope's Creek and Colonial Beach North Quadrangles Showing Location of Wakefield Property.

CH-621

LIST OF PLATES

Plate	Title
A	House [A] - front (south) elevation
B	House [A], central block - front (south) elevation
C	House [A], central block - rear (north) elevation
D	House [A], central block - first-story southwest living room
E	House [A], east kitchen wing, central block, and west wing – front (south) elevations
F	House [A], east kitchen wing, hyphen, and central block - front (south) and side (east) elevations
G	House [A], west wing and central block - front (south) and side (west) elevations
H	House [A], west wing - rear (north) and side (west) elevations
I	House [A], far east wing - front (south) and side (east) elevations
J	House [A] - rear (north) and side (east) elevations
K	View from rear of house north toward Wicomico River
L	Tobacco Barn [B] - east and south elevations
M	Office [C] and Garage [D] - south and west elevations
N	Garden Sheds [F and G] - west and south elevations
O	Tobacco Barn [H] - west and south elevations

[illegible]

Wakefield Property

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Block [illegible] Elevation

#2

CH-621

Wakefield Property

Charles County, MD

[illegible]

[illegible]

House [illegible] Elevation

#1

[illegible]

[illegible] Planning

Charles County [illegible]

[illegible] 7/97

Hour, Central Block, [illegible]

#3

CH. 6.2

[illegible] Property

Chart [illegible]

[illegible]

House [illegible]

Southwest
Living Room

CH 621

[illegible] Property

Charles Co., MD

Marvin Brown 4/99

House [illegible] wing and Central block -

front (south) [illegible] side (west) [illegible]

#7

CH-601

Wakefield Property

Charles Ch MD

Marvin Brown 7/99

[illegible] west wing - [illegible] (north) [illegible]

[illegible] elevations

F8

[illegible]

Make field Property

[illegible]

Manor [illegible]

House For East Wing [illegible] (South)

[illegible]

#9

CH 621

Wakefield Property

Charles Co, MD

Mount Bro[illegible] Nec.

House [illegible] (east)

elevations

10

Wakefield Property
Charles Co, MD
Marvin Brown - [illegible]
View from rear of house, [illegible]
towards Wicomico River

#11

Chicago

Wakefield Property

Cranes Co. (A)

Marvin Dia 7/99

Fabricated [illegible]

[illegible] south elevations

#12

CH 621

[illegible]

Charles Co, MD

[illegible] Brown 7/99

Option [illegible] Garage - South + West elevations

#13

Charles Co, MD

Garden Shads

#14

elevations

Wakefield Property
Charles Co. (MD)
Marvin Brown #199
Tobacco Barn West and south elevations

FRD