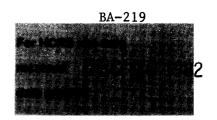
National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form





Type	all entries	complete applicable se	ections			
<u>1.</u>	Nam	е				
histo	ric	Rockland				
and/o	r common	Rockland				
2.	Loca	ition				
street	& number	10214 Falls Road.		Ŋ	1/A not for publ	ication
city, t	own	Brooklandville	x vicinity of	congressional district	Third	" "
state		Maryland code	24 county	Baltimore	code	005
3.	Clas	sification				
_X t	gory district puilding(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered X not applicable	Status _X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted _X no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park X private r religious scientifi transpoi	residence s c
<u>4.</u>	Own	er of Proper	ty			
name		J. T. H. Johnson	et al SEE CONTIN	UATION SHEET #1		
street	& number	Box 132				
city, t	own	Brooklandville	vicinity of	state	Maryland	21204
5.	Loca	ition of Lega	l Description	on		
court	house, regis	stry of deeds, etc. Baltimo	ore County Courtho	use		
	& number					
city, t		Towson		state	Maryland	21204
<u>6.</u>		esentation i	n Existing	_		
title	Mary1an	d Historical Trust c Sites Survey		pperty been determined el	legible? ye	s <u>X</u> no
date	May 198	2		federal sta	te county	_X loca
depos	sitory for su	rvey records Maryla	and Historical Trus	st		
citv. t	own	Annapo	olis	state	Maryland	21401

7.	Description	

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Condition X excellent good	deteriorated	Check one unaltered X altered	Check one X original s moved	site date
fair	unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (See Continuation Sheet # 7 for DESCRIPTION SUMMARY)

Rockland, a house, stands on a prominence overlooking a meadow on the west side of Falls Road at the end of a quarter mile driveway bordered by sycamore trees. The house, which faces east, is located approximately $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles north of the Baltimore city line.

Rockland is a 2½ story Greek Revival building consisting of a main block with two telescoping additions off the northwest end. The main block is the original structure and was constructed in 1837. The flanking arched logias were added sometime after 1905. The first of the telescoping additions, currently the dining room, was completed in 1852, and the second, now the kitchen, was added later, probably after 1890. Resting on a stone foundation, the house is constructed primarily of brick which is and presumably always has been stuccoed, scored and painted. Two interior chimneys and three dormers pierce the hipped roof of the main block while the telescoping additions have gabled roofs, each with an inside end chimney. The principal windows of the house are double hung, six over six. A simple cornice and blank frieze run under the eaves of the shallow, hipped roof.

Interior details at Rockland are consistent with the sophisticated Greek Revival design of the main block and are simple but strong and confined primarily to the first floor. Deep cornices and heavily paneled interior shutters are found in the three rooms of the original structure. Four dark marble mantels of plain slab design common to the Greek Revival style exist in the three principal rooms of the main block and the dining room. Bulls-eye corner blocks and fluted pilasters trim each window on the first floor of the 1837 building. Interior doors in the main block carry heavy entablatures.

Off the north elevation and connected to the house by a fenced wall, is an 18' by 18' smokehouse of the same material. A small stone oven with a brick chimney and wooden shingle roof is immediately west (across the driveway) from the smokehouse. Both are contemporary to the original house. A short distance from the southwest corner of the main house is a late 19th century board and batten shed with a tin roof on a concrete block foundation.

The front or east elevation of Rockland is three bays wide. The central bay protrudes slightly. On the first floor a small one bay entrance porch with four simple Doric columns covers the main double door over which exists a patterned, frosted glass transom. The door surround is plain with bull's eye corner blocks. Two six over six windows flank the door with a shutter each. A diamond-patterned waist-high railing stretches between the porch columns. The windows to either side of the porch are six over six and are inset in segmental arches and flanked by slender, two over two sidelights. The trim is plain with bull's eye corner blocks separating the windows from the sidelights. Each logia flanking the main block is five sided with arched openings defined by engaged pilasters. A waist-high railing in the diamond pattern spans the base of each archway except at the extreme ends which are open to stairs.

NPS Form 10-900-a

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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Por NPS use only received date entered

OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

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Rockland, Brooklandville Continuation sheet Baltimore County, Maryland

Item number

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OWNERS OF PROPERTY

Owner	Address	Interest	
John T. H. Johnson, M.D.	Brooklandville Maryland 21022	13/72	
Rose Johnson Randall	20 Laughlin Lane Philadelphia Pennsylvania 19118	13/72	
Robert W. Johnson, III, M.D.	Brooklandville Maryland 21022	4/72	
Harrison Garrett	Brooklandville Maryland 21022	7/72	
Katharine Garrett Bainbridge	2500 Stone Mill Road Box 114 Brooklandville Maryland 21022	7/72	
Alice Whitridge Phillips	5617 Camino del Sol Tucson, Arizona 85718	7/72	
Ella B. G. Brigham	P. O. Box 249 Paul Smiths New York 12970	7/72	
William L. Reed, Personal Representative of the Estate of Barbara Garrett Reed, Deceased	c/o Keating Bowie, Esq. Cable, McDaniel, Bowie & Bond 900 Blaustein Building One North Charles Baltimore, Maryland 21201	7/72	
Harrison Garrett and Citibank, N.A., Trustees, Trust Fund B under Will of Johnson Garrett, Deceased	c/o Harrison Garrett - Brooklandville Maryland 21022	7/72	

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Rockland, Brooklandville

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

On the second floor the windows are all shuttered, the central one being a French door over which a six light window exists. Sidelights flank this window and door, and a simple but deep cornice rests above it. The door leads out to a gallery which is the roof of the porch below. A waist-high railing of the same diamond pattern encloses the gallery. The other two windows on the flanking bays are standard six over six double-hung sashes.

Piercing the hipped roof are two gable dormers with casement windows of eight lights each. Between them rests a decorative partial parapet. The central chimneys are brick.

The addition to the main block is seen on the north side extending from the main block westward. The first segment of the addition (the dining room) has four windows, two on the first floor and two on the second, all shuttered. One double-barreled chimney is at the west end of this addition. The first floor windows are eight light French doors with arched transoms and lead to a shallow balcony with a waist-high railing in the diamond pattern. The upstairs windows are standard six over six double hung sashes.

The westernmost addition (the kitchen) contains four windows and two doors and is separated from the main block and first addition by a stuccoed wall topped by a spiked fence which runs to the two story smokehouse directly north of the house. One of these doors is covered by a gabled hood on brackets. The other door is defined by a small porch with a hipped roof resting on simple square columns with railings on either side of the opening. Between these doors is a shuttered six over six window. The three windows at the second floor are six over six and shuttered as well. An inside end chimney is on the western-most wall.

On the west elevation one sees the smokehouse to the north connected to the house by a stuccoed and fenced wall. The west end-wall of the kitchen is blank. The rear galleried, screened-in porch is directly south of this and then the southernmost part of the main block contains four six over six shuttered windows, two on each floor, is next. A dormer rests above and the south logia finishes the south wall.

The south elevation contains the kitchen wing with six six over six shuttered windows, three on each floor. Off of the first addition, between the kitchen wing and the main block, is a two story, galleried, screened-in porch defined by simple square columns. A simple, waist-high ballustraded railing exists around the upstairs portion. The main block contains one shuttered, six over six window above the logia and a small six over six window on the second floor just east of the porch.

The main block of Rockland consists of a central hall with flanking rooms, the open well, two run stairwell being to the rear (west) of the northernmost bay. Upstairs, three large bedrooms exist off of a rear hallway running north to south. A bathroom is opposite the center of the middle room and up two

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

stairs. Above the bedrooms are three corresponding rooms with curved walls (to accommodate the shallow hipped roof) off of a rear hall. Fireplaces with painted wood mantels of simple design exist in each room on the second and third floors except for the middle room on each level.

The first of the two additions is the current dining room which is entered from the narrow hall off of which the stairwell rises. The second addition, now the kitchen, is accessible from the dining room and contains a large, stone, open hearth fireplace and rear stairwell, narrow winders which climb to the small bedrooms (servant's quarters) above both additions. Two baths are located in the servant's quarters and a powder room and laundry area separate the kitchen from the dining room.

Elaborate trimwork is primarily confined to the first floor. A deep but simple cornice is in each of the three downstairs rooms. The hall, perhaps formerly two rooms, has two large floral design ceiling medallions (the parlor has one), a shallow niche on the north wall, and a fireplace with a dark marble mantel on the south wall. Two Ionic columns define the front of the room from the rear. Deep panels, some of which are interior shutters, surround the windows at the front of the house. Bulls-eye corner blocks and fluted pilasters trim each window. Interior doors, framed by fluted pilasters, carry a simple but deep entablature. Each downstairs room of the main block plus the dining room contains a fireplace with a dark marble mantel of simple slab design with a pressed fireback in either a leaf or floral motif. Upstairs, the mantels are painted wood, also of simple design. In addition to doors, louvered shutters are at each bedroom entrance, a feature which allowed ventilation in summer without a total loss of privacy.

A full basement exists under the first floor with stone walls and a dirt floor. Access is by a door under the main stairwell.

Outbuildings

The square, 18' by 18' smokehouse of stone covered with scored and painted stucco is now used for storage and was built in 1837 at a cost of \$450. The asphalt shingled, hipped roof contains one brick chimney and a small cupola in the center topped by a weathervane. The east elevation contains two windows, one on each story. The north elevation is a blind wall. One window and door exist on the first floor of the west elevation, and two doors, one on the first story and one above on the second story, are on the south elevation. A single run staircase with railing rises to the second floor to accommodate the upper door.

The oven, across the drive from the meathouse, is probably a lime oven described in William Fell Johnson's ledger and is contemporary to the main house.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

It is stone with a brick chimney and wooden shingle roof. A brick arch defines one of the two openings on the east elevation. The other opening is an untrimmed square.

Due west of the house at the south end is a board and batten shed on a concrete block foundation. A tin roof covers the late 19th century structure.

Northeast of the house is a large bank barn, of frame construction on a stone foundation, clad in vertical board and batten siding. The barn of late nineteenth century date, displays the Italianate influence in its bracketed eaves, broad cross gable and picturesque cupola.

NOTES:

 $^{^{1}\}mathrm{Dawn}$ Thomas in The Greenspring Valley: Its History and Heritage, Vol. I, p.328 suggests that the porches may have been added about 1916. They were certainly later than 1905 as verified by photographs in the possession of the Johnsons.

 $^{^{2}}$ William Fell Johnson kept a ledger recording the cost of construction for The back building is recorded as costing \$1,239.76 in the autumn of 1852.

³Dawn Thomas, The Greenspring Valley: Its History and Heritage, Vol. I, Maryland Historical Society, 1978, p. 328.

⁴Ibid., p. 327.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below						
prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 X 1800–1899	archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlemen	· ·	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater			
1900–	communications Main house, oven, sm	industry invention ookehouse-1837	politics/government	transportatior other (specify			
Specific dates	1st Addition-1852 2nd Addition & shed-	Builder/Architect	David	Carlisle			

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: B and C

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Rockland derives significance from two sources. First, its architecture is unique in Baltimore County, in that it represents a highly refined and sophisticated articulation of the Greek Revival style that was not commonly employed in rural areas of Maryland. The distinctive characteristics of this style, including its symmetrical massing, smooth wall surfaces, low-pitched roof, transomed entrance, and simple yet strong interior and exterior detail, are generally associated with urban contexts in early nineteenth century Maryland; Rockland presents a rare example of a country residence executed in the Greek Revival style. Moreover, the elegance of Rockland's design is noteworthy; the careful attention to detail and effect evident throughout the house extends to its setting, with the result that the building, viewed from a distance, appears much more imposing than its true size. Secondly, Rockland is significant as the residence of William Fell Johnson, who played an important role in the improvement of transportation in Baltimore County in his position as a manager of the Falls Turnpike Road Company.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The cornerstone for Rockland was laid 16 June, 1836, and the house was complete on Saturday, 4 November 1837. This information comes from a ledger found in the house titled "An accurate account of entire cost of house built by Mr. David Carlisle for William Fell Johnson, A.D. 1836." The ledger contains the costs of the lumber, the hardware, the stonecutting account, and the cost of carpentry, for example. The names of those from whom items were purchased are listed as well as the names of some who executed the work. For instance, J. Thomas turned the "Newel and bannister, etc." for the stairwell at a cost of \$20.29\forall . The mahogany for same was bought from James Williams at a cost of \$12.08. The meat house cost \$50. "all tolled", the dairy, \$400., and the ice house, \$205. The cost for the main house amounted to \$8602.95. Further, the ledger describes an addition: "The back building of my house was erected in the autumn of 1852 and cost me, everything estimated as per vouchers, \$1239.76.

In addition to the ledger, numerous other 19th century family documents exist such as letters, accounts, wills, inventories, and appraisals, many of which have been donated to the Maryland Historical Society. These materials confirm and add to the information in the ledger. For example, this excerpt is from a letter dated 12 March 1836 to William Fell Johnson from David Carlisle, architect for the building: "I have made some alterations in the

SEE NOTES ON CONTINUATION SHEET #s 4 and 6.

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10. G	eograph	nical Da	nta					
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		4 ₁ 3 6 ₁ 2 5 ₁ 2 4 ₁ 3 6 ₁ 2 8 ₁ 0		D 1 ₁ 8 F H	3 5 5 8	81510	413 612	61610
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11. FC	orm Pre	pared E	<u> </u>					
name/title	Marie I	Sischer Cook	e					
organization	Goucher	: College		da	ate May	, 1982		
street & numbe	er 6222 Fa	alls Road		te	lephone	(301)	296-2027	
city or town	Baltimo	ore		st	ate	Maryla	nd 21209)
12. St	ate His	toric Pr	eserva	tion (Office	er Co	ertific	ation
The evaluated	significance of th	is property with	in the state is:	ıl				
665), i hereby r	nted State Historic nominate this pro ne criteria and pro	perty for inclusion	on in the Natior	al Register	and certify	that it has	been evalu	blic Law 89— nated
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-- Raltimore County Maryland

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (Continued)

plan by adding a few feet in length and changing the position of the stairs..."

Because of Rockland's similarity to the Wickham-Valentine House in Richmond, Virginia, and because the sophistication of the design is uncommon for Baltimore County in the early nineteenth century, the present Johnson family believes that Robert Mills was the architect for both buildings. If true, this would account for Rockland's architectural refinement. I

The Rockland estate has been in the Johnson family since Thomas Johnson married Ann Riston (sometimes called Risteau or Reeston) in 1952, whose father, upon his death, left her 200 acres of Turkey Cock Hall, which is now a part of the larger Rockland estate. In 1766, 102 more acres were purchased from Poor Jamaica Man's Plague which adjoined Turkey Cock Hall. By 1783, Thomas Johnson owned 284 acres in the area. Upon his death in 1791, his children inherited and jointly owned the property until 1823 when Dr. Thomas Johnson, his son, acquired title to the entire estate. Dr. Johnson built the 8th and 9th miles of the Falls Turnpike Road and one of the toll gates near Rockland, still standing on the east side of the road just south of the estate. Additionally, Dr. Johnson was a member of the Maryland Senate in the early 1800s and was appointed a warden for the Baltimore County jail. It was this Johnson who established Rockland as a successful working farm and prosperous milling center.

William Fell Johnson, the next owner of the Rockland estate and sone of Dr. Johnson, built the 1837 house on the estate. Described in his obituary as a "well known and prominent citizen of Baltimore County" he was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates. Although Rockland was finished on 4 November 1837, Johnson did not move in until 29 May 1838 because he was serving in the legislature in Annapolis. William Fell Johnson was elected a manager of the Falls Turnpike Road Company on 13 October 1835 serving with Richard Caton and four others. In addition, Johnson was a lieutenant in the Baltimore County Hussars and was a vestryman and warden at St. Thomas' Church. William Fell Johnson died at Rockland on 16 April, 1864 leaving a 300 acre estate and personal property worth nearly \$15,500. to his wife Ann Miflin Barker Johnson.

Upon Ann's death in 1899, the property passed to the second William Fell Johnson who was one of the founding members and a former secretary and treasurer of the Garrison Forest Farmer's Club.³ The estate was about 575 acres at his death, making him one of the wealthiest landowners in the Green Spring Valley. The main house at Rockland and part of the estate passed to William Fell Johnson III at the 2nd's death.⁴ William Fell Johnson III died intestate in 1968 and the estate is presently in the hands of several Johnson families.

William Fell Johnson was a citizen concerned with the further development of Baltimore County as evidenced by his involvement with the Falls Turnpike Road Company and his service as a delegate to the Maryland legislature.

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (Continued)

NOTES:

Dawn Thomas, The Greenspring Valley: Its History and Heritage, Vol. I, Maryland Historical Society, 1978, pp. 327, 328.

²Ibid., page 326

3_{Ibid., page 328}

⁴Ibid., page 329

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Greenspring Valley: Its History and Heritage, Vol I, Daw F. Thomas, Maryland Historical Society, 1978.

All That Once Was I: Ann Miflin Barker Johnson, Rockland (1830-1900), edited by Josephine Dixon Johnson, 1979. On file at the Maryland Historical Society.

Johnson Family Papers, many of which are on file at the Maryland Historical Society.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The precise boundaries are determined by existing property lines which generally correspond with visual barriers such as ridge and tree lines and roadways. The large acreage is included to retain rural setting the house has had since construction. The house is located on a hill to the west of Falls Road (see photographs) with pasture land between the house and road. The boundaries are also drawn to include all of the resources around the house and the barn and gate posts at the entrance to Falls Road.

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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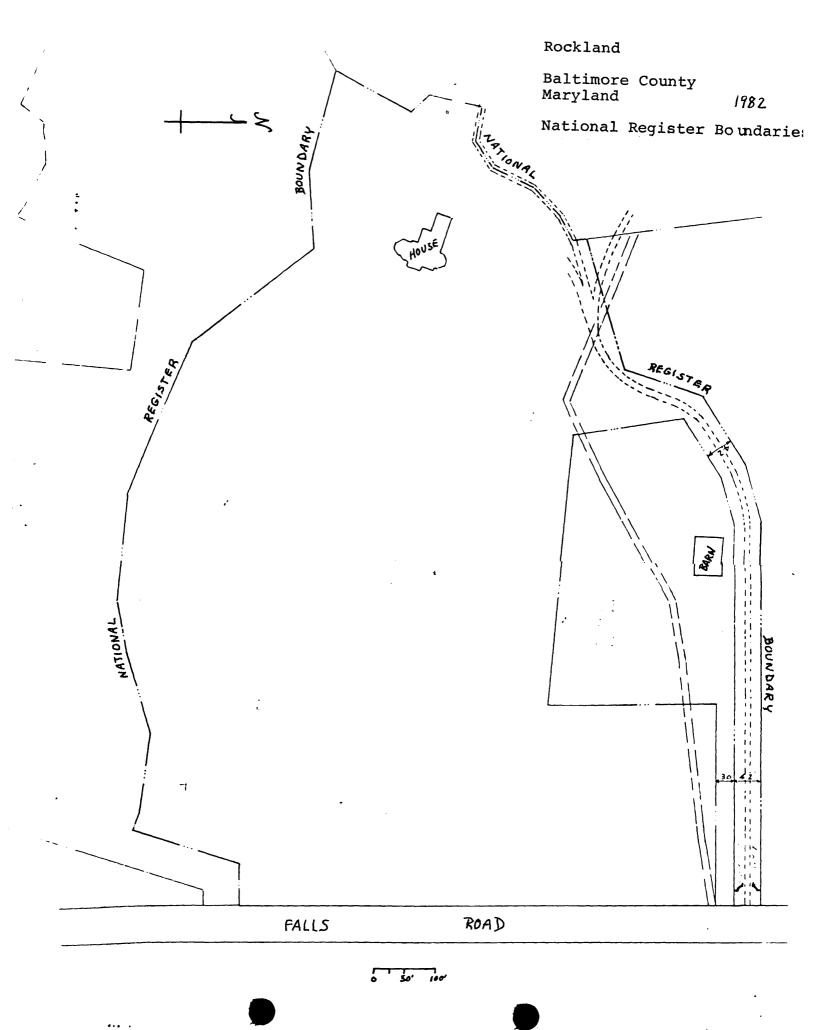
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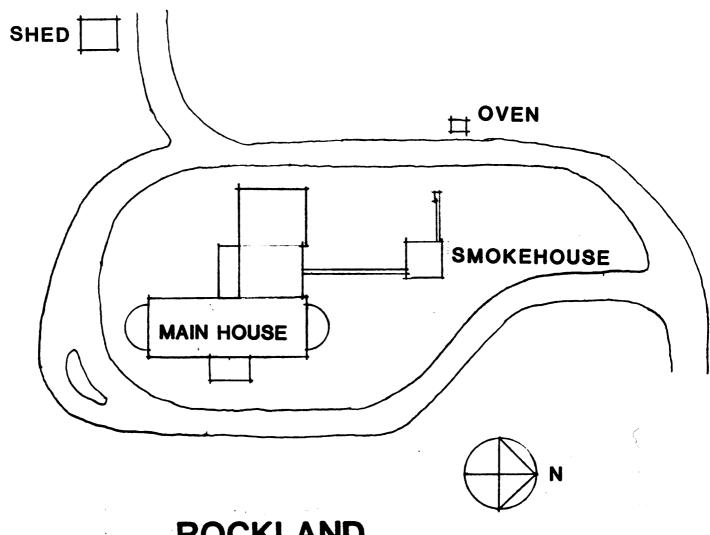
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DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Rockland is a 2½ story Greek Revival-influenced house consisting of a three-bay-wide main block with two telescoping additions extending to the north. The house faces east on a prominence on the west side of Falls Road in Brooklandville, Baltimore County, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of the Baltimore City line. The main block was constructed in 1837. The building rests on a stone foundation, and is constructed of brick which has been stuccoed and scored to resemble ashlar masonry. The principal (east) facade is three bays wide; the central bay, which projects slightly, holds the entrance which has a double door in a simple surround with bull's-eye corner blocks, surmounted by a transom. six over six windows flank the door. The entrance is sheltered by a one-baywide porch with a flat roof supported on four simple Doric columns. On the second floor, a French door flanked by sidelights and surmounted by a six light window opens onto the roof of the entrance porch, which has a diamondpatterned balustrade. Each of the flanking bays has a tripartite window with bulls-eye corner blocks inset in a recessed segmental arch on the first floor. with a single six over six window above. A simple cornice and blank frieze run under the eaves of the hipped roof, which is pierced by two gabled dormers with eight-light casement windows and two brick central chimneys. A small parapet surmounts the central bay. A wing extends to the west, consisting of two, two-story additions: a two-bay-wide stage completed in 1852, and a threebay-wide section built after 1890. The five-sided, arched loggias which flank the main block were constructed ca. 1905. The main block has a center-hall plan; interior details are consistent with its sophisticated Greek Revival design. The three first-floor rooms have deep cornices and heavy paneled interior shutters. Dark marble mantels of plain design are found in these three rooms and in the 1852 addition. Bull's eye corner blocks and fluted pilasters trim each window in the main block; interior doors carry heavy entablatures. Also on the property are a smokehouse and bake oven, contemporary with the main house; a large bank barn showing Italianate influence in its bracketed eaves, broad cross-gable, and picturesque cupola, and a late-nineteenthcentury frame shed.





ROCKLAND

SITE PLAN N.T.S.