

PH0025887

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maryland
COUNTY:	Harford
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	SEP 20 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Wildfell ~~or The (Scott House)~~

AND/OR HISTORIC:
"Wildfell" (Rocky Point)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: ~~N W of Darlington~~ Berkley Road
South side of U. S. 1, Conowingo Road, about 0.1 mile west of

CITY OR TOWN: Darlington

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: First

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Harford CODE: 025

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: William H. and Leona Scott

STREET AND NUMBER: Conowingo Road

CITY OR TOWN: Darlington

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Clerk of the Circuit Court

STREET AND NUMBER: Harford County Courthouse 40 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Bel Air

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Maryland Register

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970 Federal State County Local

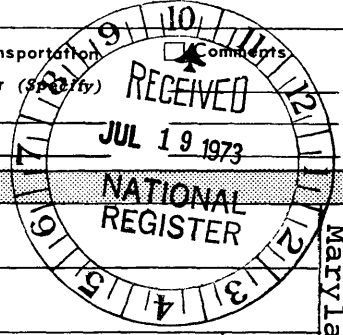
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Harford

ENTRY NUMBER: SEP 20 1973

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This octagonal frame house is set in a fine grove of poplar trees on a knoll about 1 1/2 miles northwest of Darlington on the Conowingo Road, U. S. 1.

Two stories high, the eight-sided roof is topped by an octagonal "captain's walk," flanked by two brick chimneys. The house faces southeast, as shown on the sketch on continuation sheet number one, with one or two openings in each wall. A narrow one-story wing runs northwest, 3 bays by 1. There is a three-sided porch facing east, southeast, and south.

Entering from the southeast into a shallow hall, we find winding stairs on the left. Two doors in front of us lead into two parlors of equal size separable by sliding doors. Each has a fireplace back-to-back with one in each of two smaller rooms beyond, the old kitchen and the dining room, the kitchen fireplace is closed off by a new furnace flue. There are deep closets in each of these chimney walls, with one now made into a powder room.

The octagon fad, prevalent in the 1850's is found in barns, in one-room schools, and in four-story mansions; it was executed in many architectural styles from gingerbread Victorian to orientalesque mansions to the plainest little house; and it is found in all the contemporary building materials, even in an experimental poured concrete form in the 1850's.¹ Windfell is a simplified Federal style, a moulding tops the boxed eaves, and is repeated on the porch above its octagonal pillars.

The six-panelled front door in a plain frame is topped by a four-light transom. Windows have six lights over six behind louvered shutters. Inside we find that doorways have no mouldings, doors have four panels, mantlespieces are of simple federal design downstairs while upstairs there are mantle shelves on brackets. The stairway has two turned banisters on each step under a walnut handrail.

Perhaps unique to this house are the exterior walls whose construction is of narrow planks laid horizontally, nailed from above as the work proceeded, forming an almost solid chinking in the walls if there is framing, or forming an almost solid wall if, as is thought, this is the method of construction.

¹Carl Schmidt, The Octagon Fad (Scottsville, N.Y.: By the Author, 10 Rochester Street, 1958). pp. 1 - 12.

(see continuation sheet 2)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

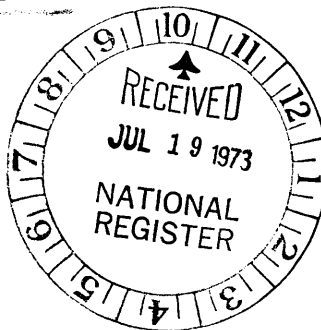
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Wildfell is one of the rare octagonal houses built in Maryland at the height of "the Octagon Fad"¹. Tradition holds that the Joseph Jewett family contracted with an ex-Navy carpenter named William Hensel to bring ship's timbers from a decommissioned ship in Baltimore that had served in the War of 1812. The Jewetts, a Baltimore family, used this as their summer place between March 1854 and June 1874, when they moved to Virginia.

Five generations of the Scott family have now lived in this house and farmed the fields since it was purchased in 1874. Wakeman Scott was known for raising successful trotting horses; his grandson Will Scott is an engineer.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

¹Carl Schmidt, The Octagon Fad (Scottsville, N. Y.: By the Author, 10 Rochester Street, 1958), p. 31.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Story of Harford County. #19 in a series of monographs unsigned, published by The First National Bank of Aberdeen. No date.

Schmidt, Carl F. The Octogan Fad. Scottsville, N. Y. By the Author. 10 Rochester Street. 1958.

Whiffen, Marcus, American Architecture since 1780. Cambridge Massachusetts. M.I.T. Press. 1969. pp. 83-86.

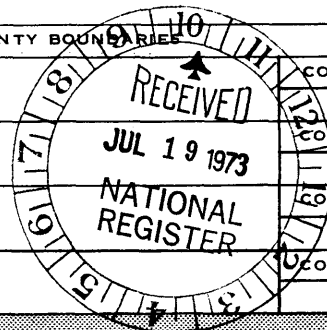
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39° 39' 05"	76° 13' 11"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 9 ± (8/27)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Jean S. Ewing

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: April 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Orlando Ridout IV
Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Preservation Officer
For Maryland

Date May 29, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 9/20/73

ATTEST: [Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date 9 19 73

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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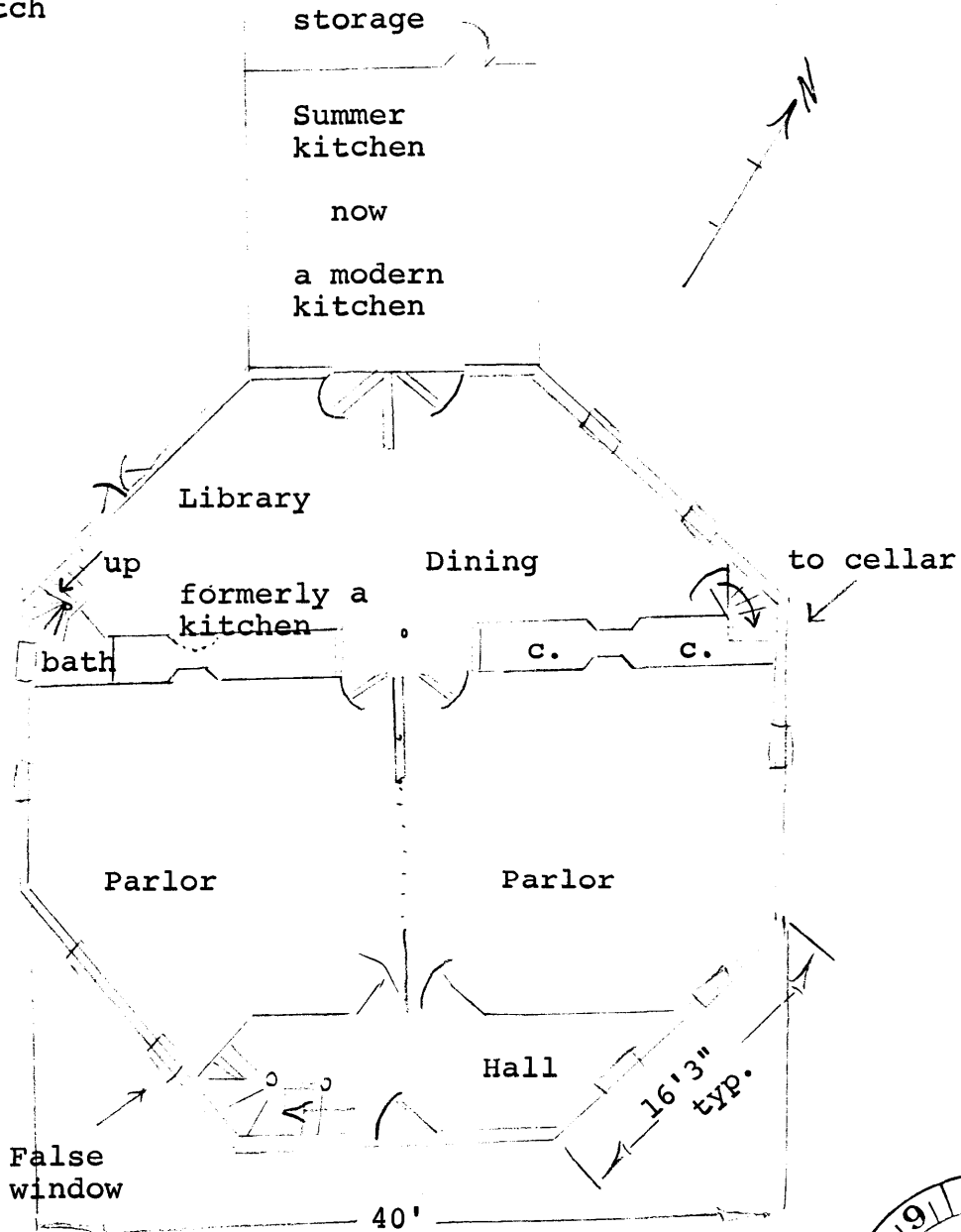
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(Continuation Sheet) #1

(Number all entries)

Wildfell or The Scott House

No. 7 Description.
Sketch



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet) #2

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Harford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
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(Number all entries)

Wildfell or The Scott House

No. 7. Description Continued.

Treatment at the corners has never been reported since this method is visible only under the shutters of the false window to the left of the front door, a window that would have opened out from the side of the staircase, but is placed to complete the symmetrical appearance of the house.

