



OMB No. 1024-0018 Expires 10-31-87

CARR-342

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### **United States Department of the Interior** National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

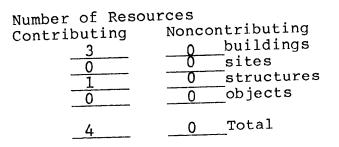
See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name

historic	Rockland F	arm (pref	erred); Arter I	louse			
and/or common	Rockland H	arm					
2. Loca	ation						
street & number	201 Rockla	ind Road			N	A not for pub	lication
city, town	Westminste	er	X vicinity of	Sixth Congres	ssional	District	
state	Maryland	code	<sup>024</sup> county	Carroll		code	013
3. Clas	sificatio	n					
Category district _X building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisit in process being consi not appli	tion A dered _	itatus      X    occupied      unoccupied      work in progress      ccessible      yes: restricted      yes: unrestricted      X      x	Present Us agricult comme educatio entertai governr industri military	ure rcial onal nment nent	museu park _X_ private religiou scientif transpo other:	residence Is lic
4. Own	er of Pr	operty	1				
name street & number	Mr. and M 201 Rock		n T. Gregg, Jr.				
city, town	Westminst	er	N∕A_ vicinity of		state	Maryland	21157
5. Loca	ation of	Legal	Descript	ion			
courthouse, regis	stry of deeds, etc.	Carroll	County Courthou	ıse Annex			
street & number		55 North	n Court Street	······································		<del></del>	
city, town		Westmins	ster		state	Maryland	21157
6. Repr	resentat	ion in	Existing	Surveys	;		
	nd Historical ic Sites Inve		has this p	roperty been deter	mined eli	gible? y	es <u>X</u> no
date August	: 1985			federal	_X_ state	e county	local
depository for su	irvey records	21 State	e Circle				
city, town		Annapoli	ls		state	Marvland	21401

Condition   excellent deteriorate    Xgood ruins   tair unexposed	X altered	Check one original site moved date	N/A	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance



Number of previously registered National Register properties included in this nomination: 0

CARR-342

Original and historical functions and uses: Agriculture, residential

### DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

7. Description

The farmhouse at Rockland Farm is unique in Carroll County in its retention of the Pennsylvania German traditional three-room plan with a central chimney. This floor plan arrangement was a cultural feature found in southeast and south-central Pennsylvania, but Rockland Farm is the only surviving example known in Carroll The house, built in 1795, also contains other Pennsylvania German traditions such as the asymmetrical main facade, basement root cellar with ground-level entrance and insulated ceiling joists, interior hardware, and second story guest room with period woodwork. The farmhouse is a two-story, three-bay by two-bay brick structure on a stone foundation built into a slope so that the asymmetrical main (east) facade has both a ground level basement entrance on the southern side and an entrance on the northern side The brickwork on this facade is Flemish bond of the first story. with a molded water table, while the other elevations are laid in The first story has eight-over-twelve sash windows common bond. The gable ends have while the second story has six-over-six. single windows on the first and second stories, and a 1 1/2 story frame washhouse has been relocated as an addition on the north The west elevation is asymmetrical, with a window in gable end. the northernmost bay, an offset entrance, and an unusually wide casement window with original or early-19th-century framing and a one story shed-roofed porch. The second story has three six-over-six windows. The farmhouse has a gable roof with a Also on the property are the stone centrally located chimney. foundation of an 18th-century springhouse, as well as a large frame barn and a corn crib, both dating to the late 19th century.

## 8. Significance



1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 X 1700–1799 X 1800–1899	17 -	community planning landscape architecture religion
Specific dates	c. 1795	Builder Architect Michael Arter, presumed builder

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: A, C Applicable Exceptions: none Significance Evaluated: local

#### SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

Rockland Farm depicts the late-eighteenth-century influences of the Pennsylvania German cultural region on central Maryland architecture. The farmhouse is unique in its retention of the traditional Pennsylvania German three-room plan with a central chimney, which is the only surviving example known in Carroll The house, built by Michael Arter in 1795, also expresses County. Pennsylvania German influence in its asymmetrical facade, basement root cellar with mud-and-straw insulation, interior hardware and decorative detailing. Arter and his descendants are responsible for the construction of several important vernacular structures of Pennsylvania German origin in Carroll County. The house was later by other prominent Carroll Countians, including Michael owned Morelock, Sr., and Charles B. Roberts. The farm and property reflect the early heritage and cultural landscape of this region and the architectural changes in outbuildings throughout the history of the property.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet No. 8

10. G	eograp	hica	I Data				
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	dary descript	-				L	
List all state	s and counti		perties over	lapping state	or count	ty boundaries	
			code	county			code
d d E c	orm Pro			county			code
ame/title	Joe Getty						
rganization	Carroll (	County Pl	lanning Dej	partment	date	August 1985	5
treet & numb	er 225 North	n Center	Street		teleph	none (301) 84	48-4500
ity or town	Westminst	er			state	Maryland	d 21157
	significance o	f this prope		·····	n 01	ficer Ce	ertification
65), I hereby i according to th	nominate this p ne criteria and	property for procedures	r inclusion in t s set forth by f	for the National the National Reg the National Par	ister and	certify that it has	
	Preservation O					date	16
For NPS us	STATE HIS		KESEKVATI	ON OFFICER			
	*	s property is Seven	s included in t	the National Reg	ster	date 🚽	-21-56
Keeper of t	he National R	egister	·····			,	
Attest:						date	
	gistration						

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Continuation sheet Carroll County, Maryland GENERAL DESCRIPTION:	Item number	7	Page	1

Rockland Farm is located approximately two miles west of Westminster on the east side of Rockland Road about .8 mile south of Uniontown Road. The farm is located in a small valley that forms the northern tier of the Wakefield Valley, a historically prosperous farming region in Carroll County. The farmhouse is situated on the western slope of the valley, a site that partially protects the structure from the winds. Its main facade faces east. East of the house is a spring with a rebuilt springhouse. The late-19th-century barn and crib are located on the northwest side of the farmhouse.

This farmhouse is a two-story, three-bay by two-bay brick structure on a stone foundation. It is built into a slope so that the main facade has both a ground level basement entrance on the southern side and an entrance on the northern side of the first story. The brickwork on this facade is Flemish bond, while the other elevations are laid in common bond. A molded watertable runs along the main and south facades. The house has a gable roof covered in standing seam sheet metal and a boxed cornice. The chimney is centrally located along the ridge of the roofline.

A number of Pennsylvania German architectural traditions are present in the farmhouse. Foremost is the retention of the central chimney, which provides a large fireplace on the first story that serves as a partition wall in the three-room Kiche, Stube, and Kammer plan. In the traditional Pennsylvania German plan, the fireplace serves the large kitchen which has a cross-passage with doors to the outside in the front and rear facades. At Rockland Farm, the current plan is a variation of the original because there is a partition wall in the kitchen that is apparently a later alteration that appears to be from the mid-19th century. Thus, the traditional use of first floor rooms at Rockland Farm - kitchen, parlor and bedroom - reflects a cultural persistence of the Pennsylvania German region.

Another Pennsylvania German feature is the use of the basement for the root cellar or cold cellar of the household. The farmhouse has a partially excavated basement, with the northern section having only a crawl space. The southern portion is excavated with a ground-level entrance on the main facade. The foundation is constructed of uncoursed fieldstone which supports a log lintel at the location of the basement entrance. The lintel is chamfered with serpentine stops and is inscribed, "M 1795 E." The entrance and the two basement windows on the main facade have arched brick lintels made of header bricks. On the interior, the cellar is

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

insulated from the first story by mud and straw that fills the space between the first story flooring and slats fitted into grooves on the log floor joists.

The asymmetrical main facade is three bays wide, although there are four bays on the first story created by what is apparently a later window added on the north side of the entrance. The original first story windows are eight-over-twelve sash with flat jack-arch lintels that are two-stretchers deep. The window in the second bay from the south was converted to a door in the 19th century but has been restored to a window. The entrance has a jack-arch lintel, a three-pane transom, and original paneled double doors. Each door has three panels and on the interior are the original wooden box lock with key and brass knob. The northernmost bay contains a small six-over-six sash window that is similar to the second story windows but apparently is a later alteration. The second story has six-over-six sash windows in wide wooden frames without brick lintels spaced above the original three bays of the first story. А later-19th-century one-story porch that covered the middle two bays was removed in the 1970s.

The north gable end has six-over-six sash windows centrally located on each story and two four-light casement windows in the Each of these windows has a brick header lintel. gable. In 1984, the 19th century frame washhouse was moved from a location southwest of the farmhouse and attached to the western side of the north facade to create a family room in the house. The washhouse is a  $1 \frac{1}{2}$  story structure, two-bays by one-bay with a gable roof covered in wood shingles. The frame building is covered in German siding painted brown and has a brick interior chimney with corbelled cap at the north gable end. The east facade is unfenestrated except for two six-pane casement windows at the three-quarter story level. The west facade has the three-quarter story window as well as a batten door entrance with plain frame in the southernmost bay and a six-over-six sash window in the northern bay. The northern gable end is unfenestrated.

The south gable end of the brick house has windows located towards the east side. There is a basement window with arched brick lintel, an eight-over-twelve sash window on the first story, a six-over-six window on the second story and four-pane casement window centrally located on the gable. A bulkhead entrance centrally located at the basement is a 20th century alteration. This facade also contains evidence, including paint marking,

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

plaster, and filled-in brickwork, of a 19th century addition that has been removed.

The west facade is three bays wide with an asymmetrical The entrance is located off-center in the second bay arrangement. from the north (so that it is in line with the entrance on the main facade). The northernmost bay, and the three bays on the second story contain six-over-six sash windows with wide pegged frames. An unusual feature is the wide, horizontal window in the southernmost bay of the first story. While the panes in this window have been replaced, the framing appears to be early. However, this conflicts with the traditional use of this room as a bedroom, and probably the window is an early-to-mid 19th century The full-length, one-story porch on this facade also alteration. dates from that period.

The Kiche, or original kitchen, on the interior is the northernmost room and originally ran from the front to the back of The evidence for the partition wall being a later the house. alteration includes the fact that the chairrail on the partition does not match the other walls of the room. Also, the partition wall on the south side of the house (between the Stube and Kammer) is brick while the one on the north side (in the Kiche) is constructed of frame with lath and plaster. This room contains the The stairway has a double corner stairway to the second story. flight in the northeast corner of the Kiche, with the upper section The mantel on the large fireplace has a plain shelf with boxed in. serpentine molding. The room has a molded chairrail and the door frames have guarter-round molding. The interior doors have six-panels, and retain their original Pennsylvania German hardware with wrought strap hinges and wooden box locks.

The Stube, or parlor, is the southeast room and contains molded chairrail, molded window frames with crossettes, and six-panel doors with original hardware. In a traditional Pennsylvania German layout, this room would have been heated by a cast-iron stove with the flue feeding into the main chimney.

The second story of the farmhouse has five rooms. The stairs lead into the northeast room which is a large open room with a corner stairway to the attic. It has a beaded board partition wall on the west side that contains two doorways. The door into the northwest room is a six-panel door with wrought strap hinges and arrow plates. A narrow six-panel door leads into the middle room on the west side which originally was a small foyer for the back stairs but has been converted to a bathroom.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The southeast room is a bedroom with refined woodwork. In the Pennsylvania German cultural tradition, this was the guest room and usually had the best woodwork in the house and was almost always located on the second floor over the parlor. The guest room was used not only for accommodating visiting family and friends, but also for storage of the best material possessions of the family, such as furnishings and Sunday clothes. At Rockland Farm, the guest room has a molded chairrail, plain fireplace mantel, door frames with quarter-round molding, and peg rails. The six-panel interior doors have strap hinges and the door to the northeast room retains a Dutch elbow lock.

The southwest room is a small narrow room above the first story Kammer. It would have been a Kammer, but may have contained several blanket chests for storage instead of beds for sleeping. The room has a chairrail and peg rail running around its sides.

The attic was an open room that has been remodeled as two bed rooms. The roof framing system is visible in the attic and consists of a principal purlin system supporting common rafters.

The property had numerous farm and domestic outbuildings that have been lost over time. East of the farmhouse is the site of the original springhouse. The stone foundation of the springhouse is all that remains of the original structure. A modern brick structure with a shed roof has been built on top of the of the foundation to protect the spring.

Two other historical outbuildings remain on the property, both from the late nineteenth century. One is a frame barn with a rectangular-shaped plan and a gable roof with a cross-gable. Built in 1888, it departs from the bank barn tradition popular in this area, with its one and one-half story height, board-and-batten exterior, and Victorian style pointed arch window trim. The August 11, 1888 edition of the Democratic Advocate provides the following information about the barn: "Charles B. Roberts is building a barn 40' by 84' on his Rockland Stock Farm. Raising took place on Wednesday afternoon. Charles C. Crumbacker of Linwood is the The other structure, which is contemporaneous to the builder." barn, is a corn crib in deteriorated condition. The structure is frame, covered with German siding, and has a gable roof. The corn crib's design provides a through-passage for a wagon with cribs on both sides.

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT:

Michael Arter first appears in documentary records in Frederick County (now Carroll County), Maryland in 1765. The Arter family was responsible for the construction of several important vernacular structures in this region including Innisfree (CARR-812), the Solomon Arter house (CARR-824) and the Arter's Mill Property (CARR-97). There is some confusion in oral and recorded traditions about the original Michael Arter homestead. The research conducted as part of this National Register nomination provides evidence that Rockland Farm is the earliest extant Michael Arter house.

Rockland Farm is located on portions of the tracts patented as "Father's Care" and "Good Fellowship." "Father's Care" was patented by Thomas Stansbury in June 1745, and Stansbury sold a portion of the tract to Michael Arter in January 1765. "Good Fellowship" was recorded for 150 acres by Edward Lamb in March 1745. In October 1765, Thomas Logsdon of Frederick County, Farmer, sold a ten acre parcel of "Good Fellowship" to Michael Arter of Frederick County, Carpenter (Frederick County Land Records K-49) for  $\pm$  10. Michael Arter (whose name appears in the Land Records under the following spellings: Arter, Arthur, Erthur, Erture, and Earthur) was active in the purchase of property in this region through 1798.

Michael Arter owned this farm, now known as Rockland Farm, until his death in 1808, so he is almost certainly the builder of the farmhouse. In the basement entrance of the farmhouse is a log lintel with the inscription "M 1795 E" which would stand for Michael Erter and the date 1795. This lintel appears awkward in its installation in the brickwork, and may not be original to the house - perhaps it is relocated from a log barn or other log structure that once stood on the property. Whether it is original or not, however, it helps to confirm the fact that this is a house of Michael Arter's.

A recently published Arter Family genealogy - <u>The Arter/Arthur</u> <u>Family of Fountain Valley</u> - claims that a different house is the Michael Arter homestead, a property now known as Innisfree. However, an architectural analysis of Innisfree would place its date of construction later than the 1780s, as attributed by the genealogical publication, and documentary research confirms the probability that Rockland Farm is the earliest extant structure of Michael Arter's.

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#### HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

The date of construction for the farmhouse at Rockland Farm could range from 1765 (when Michael Arter purchased the property) to 1795 (the date inscribed on the log lintel). The architectural characteristics support this date range, especially with the retention of the central chimney plan which was quickly fading out of style during the late eighteenth century. The interior trim also supports a date range from this period, and might be the work of Michael Arter himself, who is listed in the land records as a carpenter.

The 1798 Federal Tax List for Frederick County records only one house for Michael Arter. The improvements listed for Arter are "Brick House, Log Barn, Saw Mill, on a 522 1/2 acre tract of "Father's Care and part of Good Fellowship." This reference also documents that there were \$250 worth of new improvements since the last assessment.

The fact that Michael Arter owned two houses at his death in 1808 is confirmed by a reference in a supplemental inventory taken June 24, 1808 by David Shriver, Sr. and Michael Morelock which values his crops with the following citations: "The half of the hay at the new house," and "The half of the hay at the old house," (Frederick County Inventories RB 2, folio 334-335). Based on the stylistic differences in the architecture of Rockland Farm and Innisfree, it is probable that the new house being referenced is Innisfree and the old house is Rockland Farm.

Michael Arter died intestate and details from the land and probate records are sketchy, but indicate the following disposition of real property. The heirs were unable to agreeably divide the land in the estate, so the eldest son, Frederick Arter, applied at the August 1810 term of the Frederick County Court to take all land and pay the heirs for their share (Frederick County Land Records WR 39/531). In order to pay the heirs, Frederick Arter mortgaged the land to Peter Royer and Michael Morelock for \$13,986. The land records also show that Peter Royer and Michael Morelock also received parcels of land from Frederick Arter (perhaps as down-payment on the mortgage) and the site sold to Michael Morelock was part of "Father's Care" which included the improvements now known as Rockland Farm (Frederick Coounty Land Records WR 39/312; 3/30/1811).

Michael Morelock, Sr., transferred Rockland Farm to Michael Morelock, Jr., on April 1, 1834 (Frederick County Land Records reference unknown; Carroll County Land Records WW 1/193; 4/2/1842;

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

confirmatory deed of Frederick County deed). The Morelock family was prominent in this section of Carroll County and they operated a tannery near Rockland Farm. Michael Morelock, Sr., built a fashionable brick house, known as Father's Care (CARR-263) in 1830, which is the farm southeast of Rockland Farm. After completing his new house, he turned over his Rockland Farm farmhouse to his son, Michael Morelock, Jr.

During the late nineteenth century, the property was owned by Charles B. Roberts and widely known as a thoroughbred stock farm. Roberts was a leading Carroll County attorney and U.S. Congressman. At Rockland Farm, he raised Holstein-Friesian cattle and Hambletonian Horses (<u>Democratic Advocate</u>, May 5, 1888). Roberts also had the board and batten barn constructed on the property (Democratic Advocate, August 11, 1888).

In 1905, the property was purchased by the B.F. Shriver Canning Company. The land was used to produce crops for canning and the farmhouse was tenanted. In 1976, a portion of Rockland Farm including the historical improvements was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Edwin T. Gregg.

The architectural significance of the property rests primarily in the retention of Pennsylvania German features in the house. The Arter family genealogy outlines theories about the origin of Michael Arter, including possible Swiss Moravian, Rhineland German, or Alsace-Lorraine backgrounds. He apparently immigrated with the numerous Pennsylvania Germans who settled the central Maryland region during the mid-eighteenth century. He was buried at Krieder's Union Church (Lutheran and German Reformed) cemetery and his tombstone, written in German, uses a Pennsylvania German design popular in this region.

The significant architectural characteristics of the farmhouse rest mainly in the three-room plan with a central chimney, which represents a strong Pennsylvania German tradition that was fading out of fashion by the date of construction of this house. The rooms represent the cultural preference for usage in the Kiche-Stube-Kammer tradition. Also representative of Pennsylvania German domestic construction in this region is the construction of the building into a slope allowing for the use of a basement room as a cold cellar with the corresponding insulation in the cellar ceiling joists. The retention at Rockland Farm of the interior wood trim and hardware in the farmhouse and the nineteenth century outbuildings are also architecturally significant.

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

The preservation of these Pennsylvania German architectural features and the historical associations of the Arters and later owners make Rockland Farm a prominent property in the history of Carroll County.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Land and Probate Records of Carroll and Frederick Counties

1798 Federal Direct Tax List of Frederick County

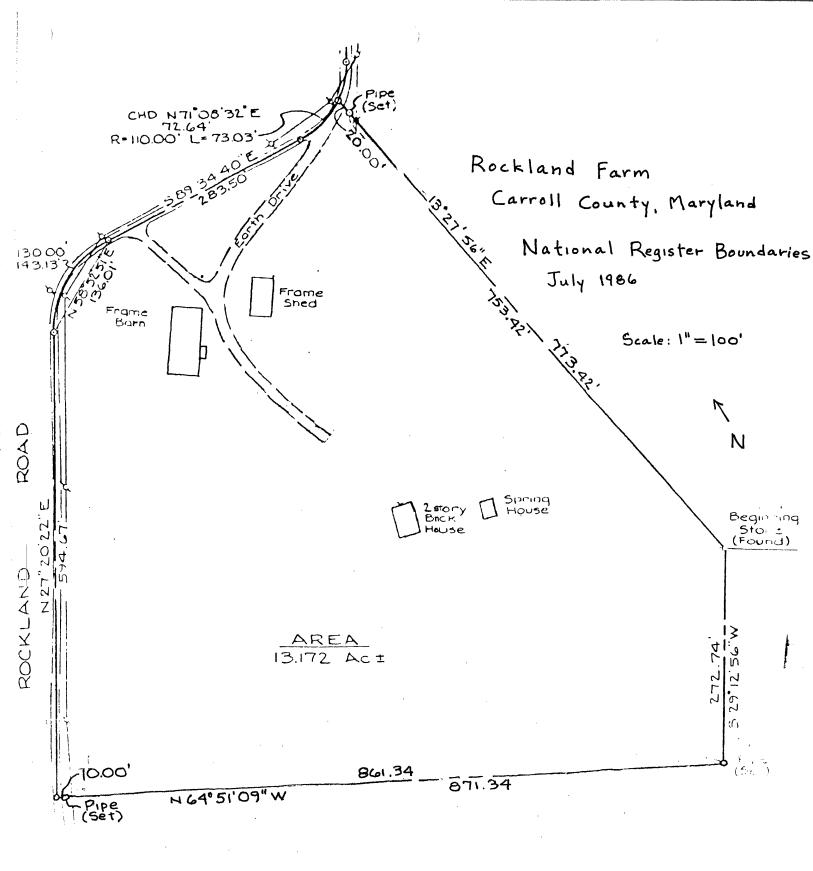
The Arter/Arthur Family of Fountain Valley Published by the Arter Family Reunion, n.d.

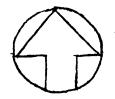
The Democratic Advocate Westminster, MD 5/5/1888; 8/11/1888

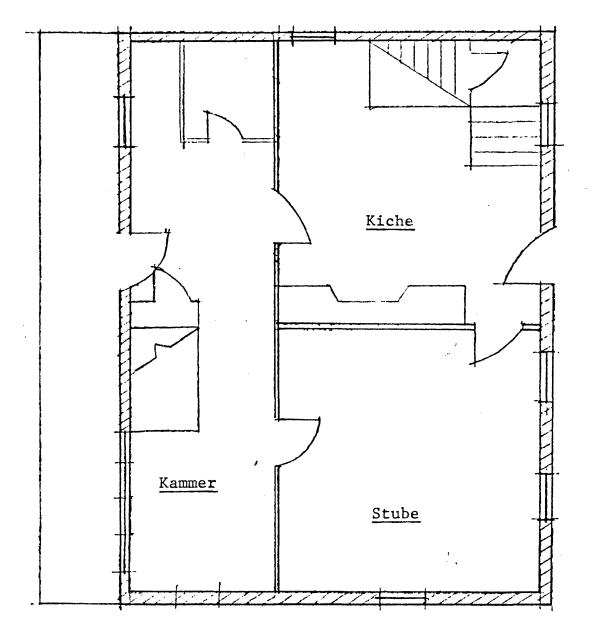
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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification: The nominated property, 13.172 acres, encompasses the house and outbuildings within their immediate setting and reflects the agricultural associations of the historic resource. Boundaries are depicted on the attached plat, drawn to the scale 1" = 100' and recorded among the Land Records of Carroll County, Maryland (Liber CCC 612, folio 594).







ROCKLAND FARM Carroll County, Maryland

Sketch Floor Plan July 1986