

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	NOV 6 1978
DATE ENTERED	SEP 6 1979

# 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

EDGEWOOD (preferred) part of Tasker's Chance

AND/OR COMMON

Taurus Estates

## LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Poole Jones Road (Route #7), 1/2 mile west of  
Opossumtown Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Frederick ~~MD~~ VICINITY OF Harmony Grove Sixth

STATE

CODE  
24

COUNTY

Frederick

CODE  
021

## CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

## OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

The Taurus Trust, Dr. Nicola M. Tauraso

STREET & NUMBER

Poole Jones Road, Route #7

CITY, TOWN

Frederick

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

21701

## LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Frederick County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Frederick

STATE

Maryland

21701

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This farmhouse, now part of Tauraso Estates, is located a short distance south of Poole Jones Road, northwest of Frederick in Frederick County, Maryland. It is situated on an area of high, level ground and faces east. It is a two-story, five-bay limestone dwelling showing narrow courses of native stone. A two-story, two-bay stone ell with a modern frame extension enclosing a former two-story porch is attached to the rear or west wall. The house is wide, with three windows at each story across its north end wall.

There is no decorative masonry, such as arches or keystones, associated with the windows and doors. A vertical seam in the masonry appears between the main house and the wing. Small areas of brick infill are to be seen at the return areas of the eaves at each corner of the main section. There are variations in the stonework over the surfaces of the house suggesting possible additions and early changes or perhaps that the entire house may have been stuccoed at one time.

Openings are not placed symmetrically in the front elevation. There is more space between the windows in the south half of the wall than those in the north half. All windows have narrow frames which hold six-over-six pane, double-hung sash and pairs of shutters with stationary louvers. Smaller six-over-six sash windows light the attic. At the rear of the house, a window at the first story level has been enlarged.

The main entrance is located in the central bay of the front or east elevation. A wide double door, each half containing three panels, is hung beneath a broad, eight-light transom. Flanking the door is a pair of Doric-type colonnettes and three-light sidelights. A one-story, 20th century porch with a hipped roof extends across the three central bays of the front wall. It is supported by round Doric pillars. A secondary entrance is located in the north elevation of the wing. Sheltering it is a two-bay, modern, shed-roofed porch supported by square posts. A two-story porch along the south elevation of the wing has been enlarged and enclosed with siding to create additional living space.

Standing seam sheet metal covers the roof, which terminates with barge boards set directly against the end walls. Large brick interior end chimneys, painted white, appear to have been rebuilt.

The interior of the front section of the house is bisected by a broad, central stair hall. To the south of the hall is a double parlor divided by a pair of large six-panel doors and to the north is a single large room. Original interior woodwork at the first two stories features doors with six low relief panels, mantels with Doric colonnettes, and decorated corner blocks. These elements appear to date from the mid-19th century or Greek Revival period.

One of the most notable aspects of the interior is to be found in the basement of the south part of the front section, where evidence remains of 18th century insulation. The joists which run east to west across the basement room appear to be hewn on all four sides. Approximately midway in their width is a notch into which short boards are fit which span the distance between the joists. On these boards rests a layer of mud mortar. Above the mortar on top of the joists are the first story floor boards. This type of construction is usually associated with 18th century

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1,

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Taskers Chance, Edgewood  
Frederick County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

buildings and can be seen at Schiefferstadt, a National Register property from the third quarter of the 18th century in Frederick County. Another 18th century feature in the basement room is a segmental arch over a doorway in one of the stone walls. No 18th century work was observed in the upper parts of the house.

The dwelling appears to be in excellent condition and stands on a tract of ground containing about 7.86 acres. An adjoining tract of empty land containing 5.4 acres has been acquired by the owner, bringing the total acreage to more than 13 acres. Southeast of the house is an early 20th century frame bank barn and a modern dairy barn which has been converted to a physician's office. An old corn crib is also present. The property is part of the land grant "Tasker's Chance."

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This multi-part stone farmhouse shows evidence of both 18th and 19th century construction. Built of native limestone, it is an excellent example of northern Maryland's vernacular architecture and the evolution it experienced over the course of two centuries. The house is also significant for its association with the Schley family, prominent 19th century residents of Frederick County.

Most observable parts of this house exhibit fine mid-19th century work influenced by the Greek Revival style popular at that time. Elements of Greek Revival work are apparent in the main entrance with its broad transom, sidelights, and colonnettes following the Doric form. Interior woodwork is massive but formal; mantelpieces are decorated with Doric colonnettes and door architraves are trimmed with corner blocks.

In contrast to the 19th century appearance of the house are the remnants of a much older building in the basement. The 18th century insulation system, consisting of flat boards set into the joists carrying a layer of mud mortar below the floor boards, has been associated by some historians with Germanic building traditions. An 18th century arched doorway also remains in the basement. Further research is needed to determine the precise history of this house, but it would appear that an 18th century house was substantially rebuilt during the middle third of the 19th century.

The history of the property on which this house is located has been traced to April 13, 1774, when 260 acres, part of a tract called "Tasker's Chance" was conveyed to Mathias Buckey from Christopher Loundes. This farm apparently remained in the Buckey family for some time, being sold by Michael Buckey, David Buckey, and Edward Buckey, executors for the late Valentine Buckey on October 23, 1830 to John Schley (JS35/1). The farm was described in this deed as Valentine Buckey's dwelling plantation.

The Schley family held the farm from 1830 until 1911. One of the most prominent members of this family was Dr. Fairfax Schley, a physician who purchased the farm from Henry and Sarah Schley in 1864 (JWLC2/568). Dr. Schley practiced in Frederick from 1846 to 1855, when he retired and bought out a local drug business which he operated as Schley Brothers. He was associated prominently with the Maryland School for the Deaf and was apparently active in agricultural pursuits and the Agricultural Society of Frederick County. During Schley ownership the farm became known as "Edgewood."

In 1911 the property was purchased by Thomas Poole Jones, whose name has been given to the county road which passes by the farm (298/475). Jones' estate owned the property until 1964. It was purchased by the present owner in 1972.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dettbarn, Ernest A, M.D., notes compiled on the history of the property and on Dr. Fairfax Schley.  
 Frederick County Land and Probate Records.  
 Sharf, J. Thomas. History of Western Maryland. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Louis H. Everts, 1882.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 13.26 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	29,146,0	4,37,044,0	B	1,8	29,157,0	4,37,034,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,8	29,142,0	4,37,012,0	D	1,8	29,131,0	4,37,012,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

E 18/291290/4370330

See red line on enclosed tax assessment map.

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

Paula Stoner, Architectural Historian

1 km

ORGANIZATION

Preservation Associates

DATE

April 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Box 202

TELEPHONE

(301) 432-5466

CITY OR TOWN

Sharpsburg

STATE

Maryland 21782

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*M. Little*

10-30-78

TITLE

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Charles Stull*

DATE 9-6-79

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *China Joe Saxe*

DATE 9-5-79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Regional Coordinator

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Taskers Chance, Edgewood  
Frederick County

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(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

An unusual feature of this property is that its acreage varied little from the 18th century until 1964. Also for a period of 190 years it was in the possession of only three families, a somewhat rare occurrence.

Now known as Taurus Estates, the farmstead contains only 13.26 acres, but the house remains as a statement of architectural and social history spanning three centuries.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Edgewood  
Frederick County  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8, 10 PAGE 3

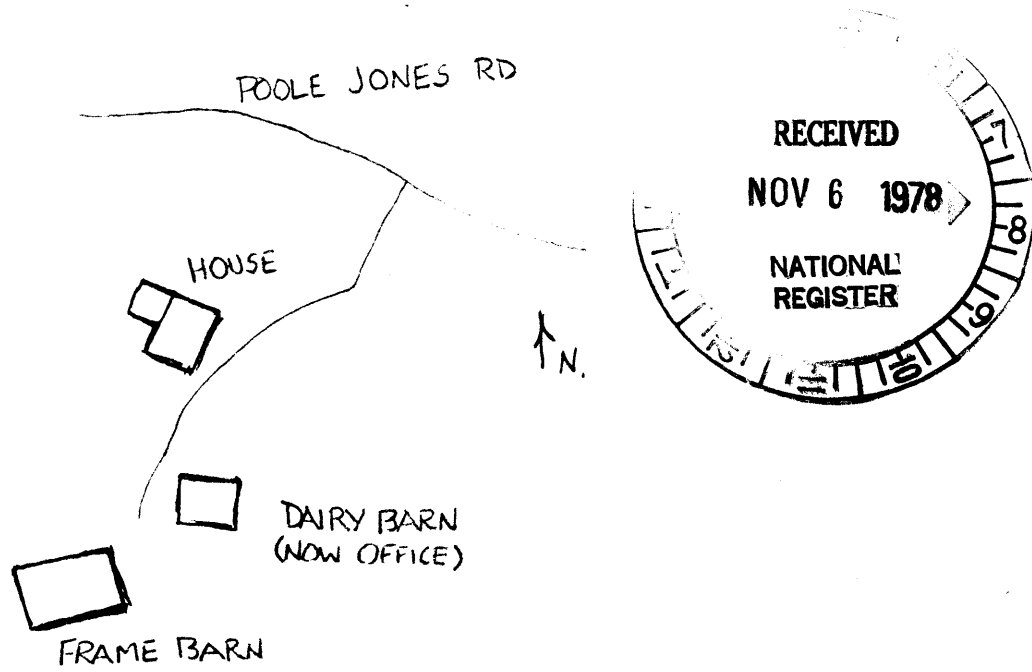
Addendum to Significance

The 20th century barns on the Edgewood property do not have any particular architectural significance on their own. As part of the Edgewood complex, however, they illustrate its former use as a working farm.

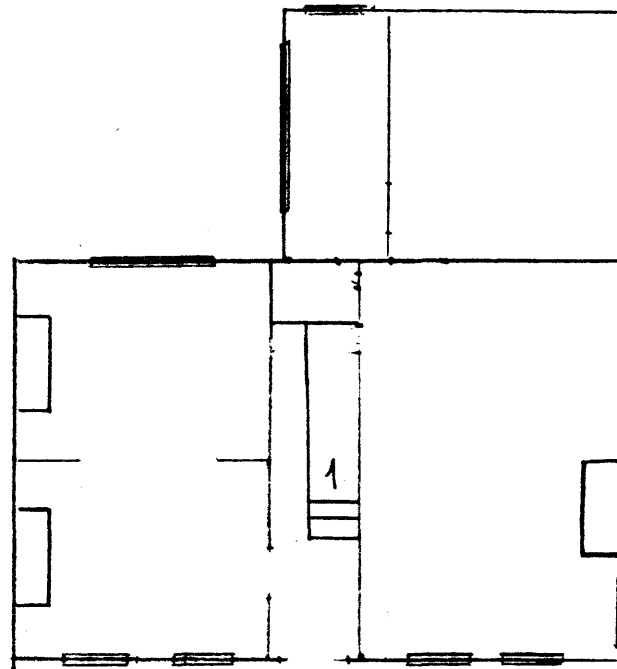
Addendum to Significance and Acreage Justification

The house and outbuildings are located in the midst of development in this part of Frederick County. The open land remaining from the farm formerly associated with this house consists of 13.26 acres immediately around the house, outbuildings, and drive. This acreage is included in this nomination for its historic associations with the house and its past use in agriculture.

psr and pmj



HOUSING SUBDIVISION - NOT  
PART OF THIS PROPERTY



"TASKERS CHANCE" (TAURUS ESTATES) FREDERICK CO. MD. APPROX. PLAN